Volume 3
Komi Can't
Communicate
Tomohito Oda

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Contents

Communication	35	Worries	03
Communication	36	Studying for Tests	11
Communication	37	Summer Vacation	23
Communication	38	Meeting Up	35
Communication	39	The Pool	41
Communication	40	Just a Scrape	61
Communication	41	The Library	79
Communication	42	Shaved Ice	90
Communication	43	Part-Time Job	97
Communication	44	The Park	108
Communication	45	Celebrating Obon	117
Communication	46	Festival	137
Communication	47	Festival, Part 2	155
		Bonus	176

Komi Can't Communicate

Communication 35: Worries

Komi Can't Communicate

Komi Can't Communicate

People with commu-nication disorders ...

Shoko

...have difficulty engaging in conversation and other forms of interactions.

Those who suffer from this condition...

Tik

Tok

Tik

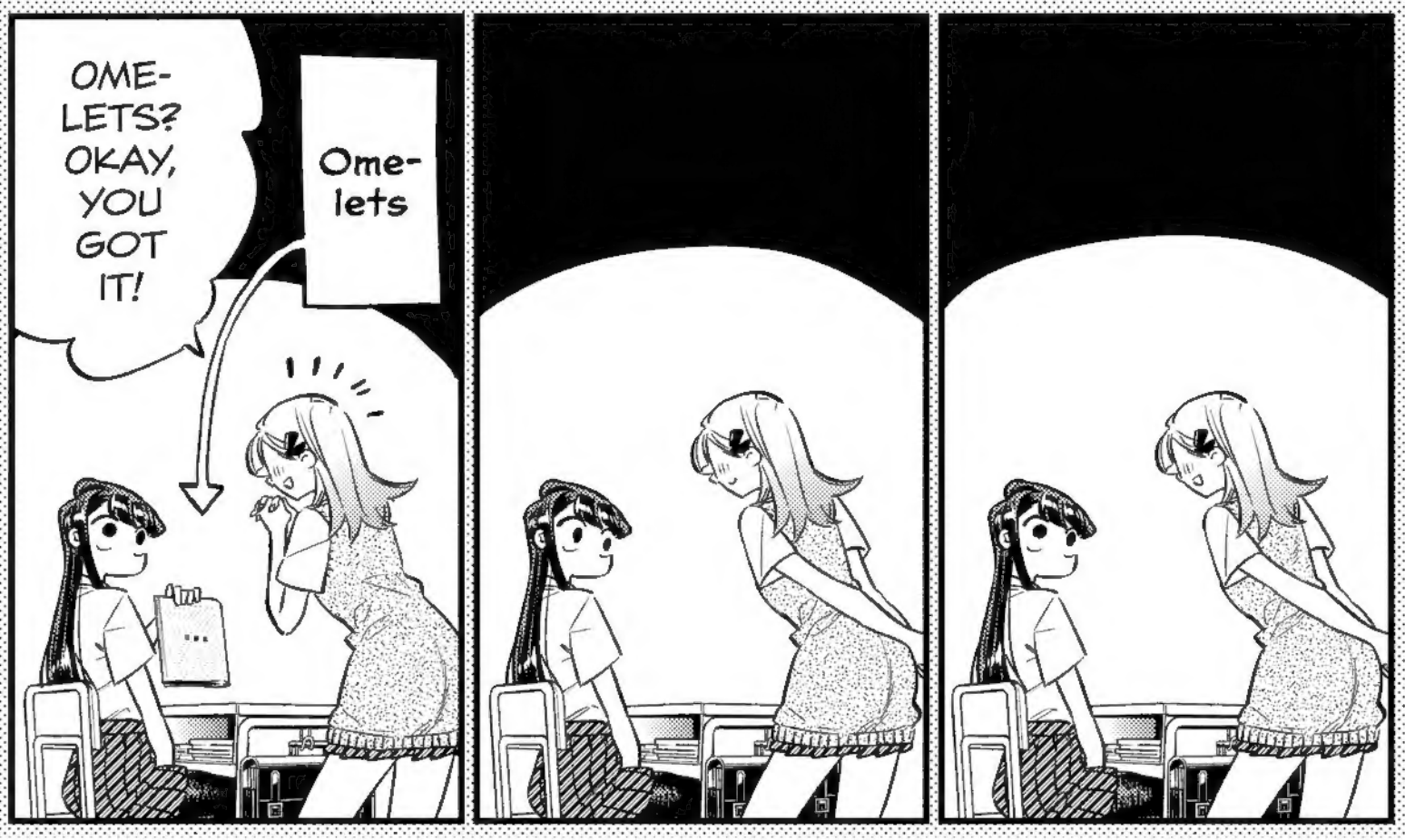
Tok

Can't sleep

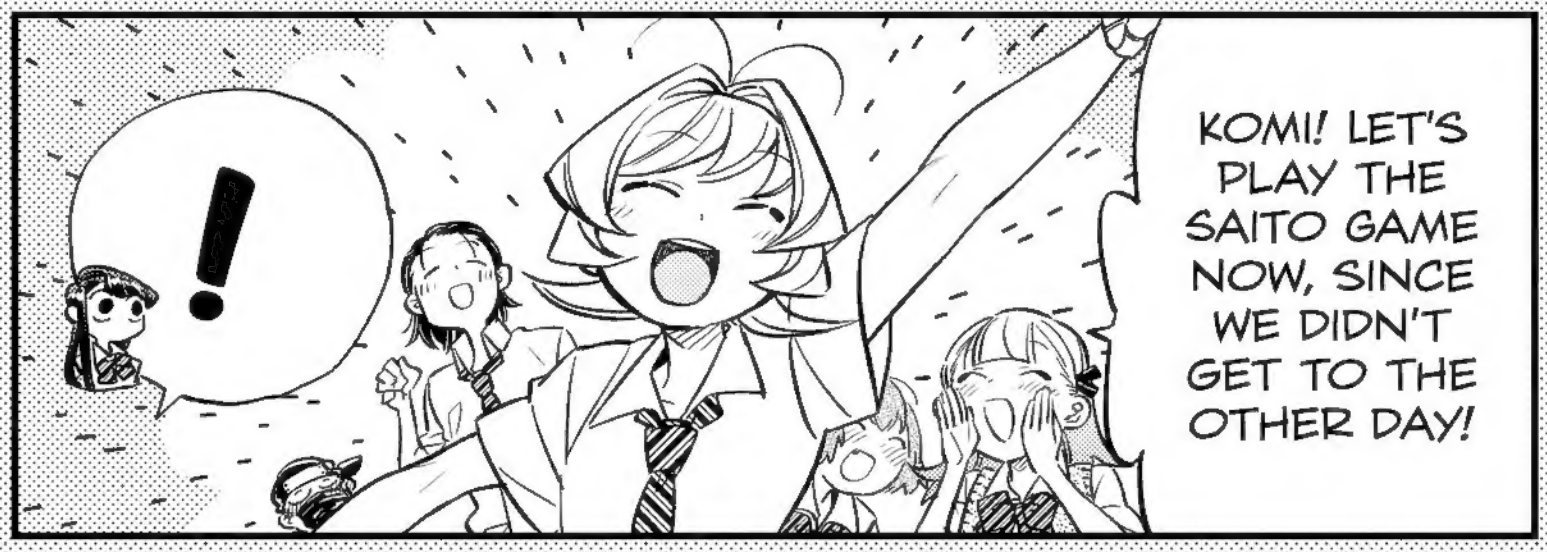
PEEK

...often lie awake at night thinking, *"Why did I say that?"*

Memory 1: Conversation with Yamai



Memory 2: Conversation with Najimi



Memory 3: Conversation with Agari

Memory 4: Conversation with Tadano

KOMI MISTOOK CHILI FOR CHILLY!

OH ...

...I GET IT!

THEY'RE BOTH GOING TO FRET OVER THIS LATER.

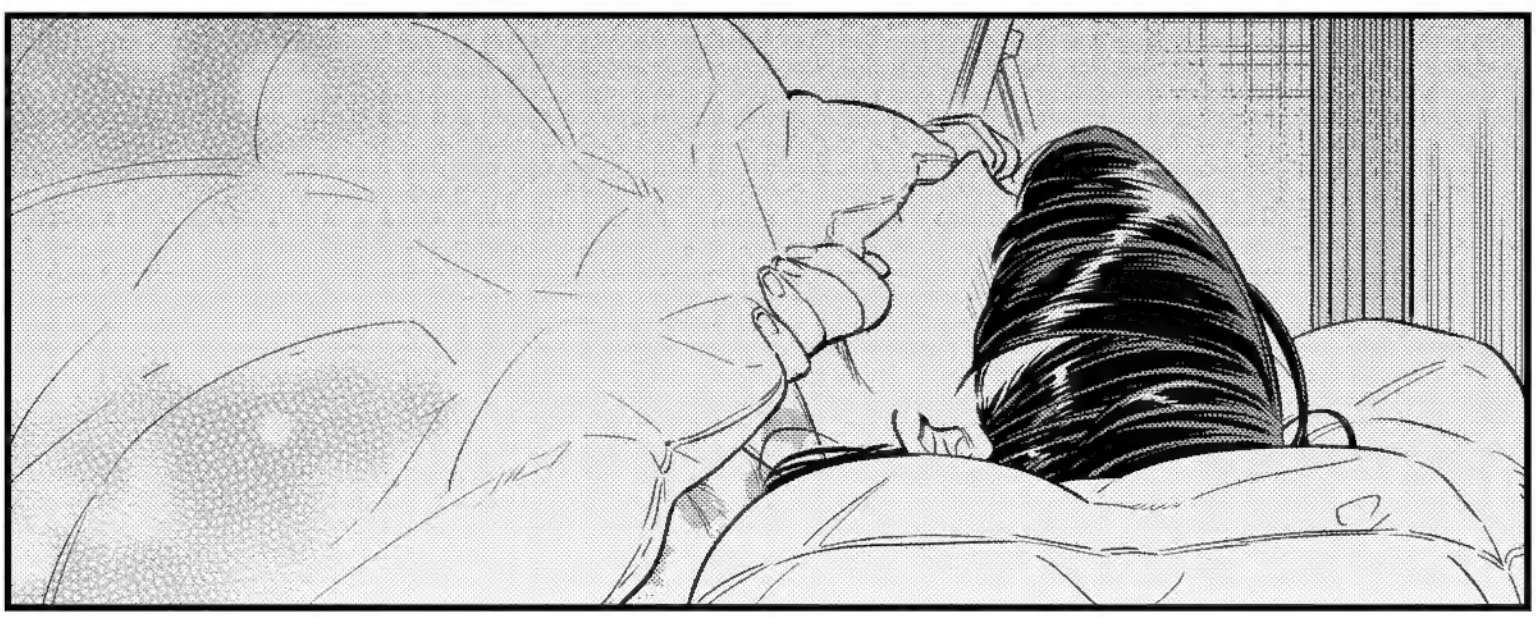
...

SWIP SWUP

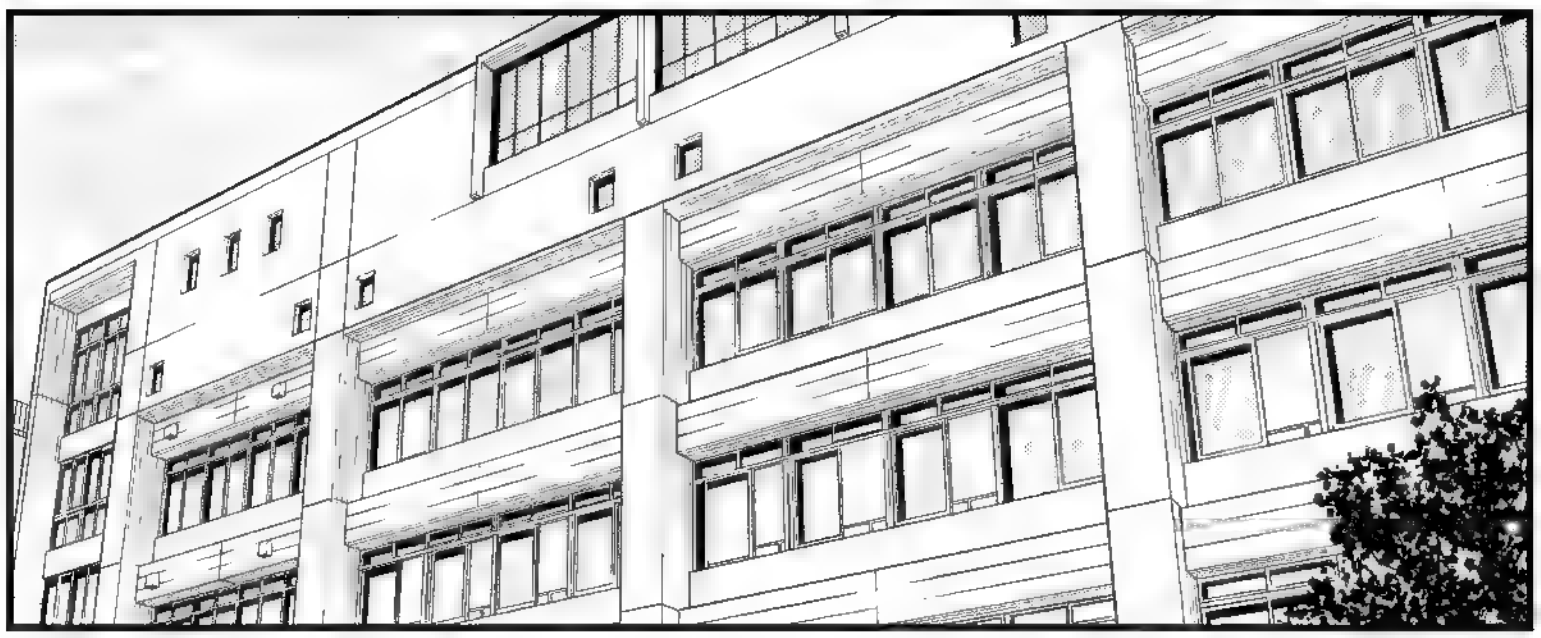
OH NO! S-SORRY! I SH-SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO C-CON-FUSING!

...WHEN HE REALLY SAID TODAI ARISTO-CRACY! FUNNY, HUH?

D-DON'T WORRY! THIS SORT OF THING ALWAYS HAPPENS! THE OTHER DAY, I THOUGHT SOMEONE SAID TAISHO DEMOCRACY ...



Communication 35 – The End



Communication 36: Studying for Tests

I WANT TO DIE.

GLOOM

GLANCE

NAJIMI'S BEGGING FOR SOMEONE TO ASK WHY!

T

GLOOM

I WANT TO DIE.

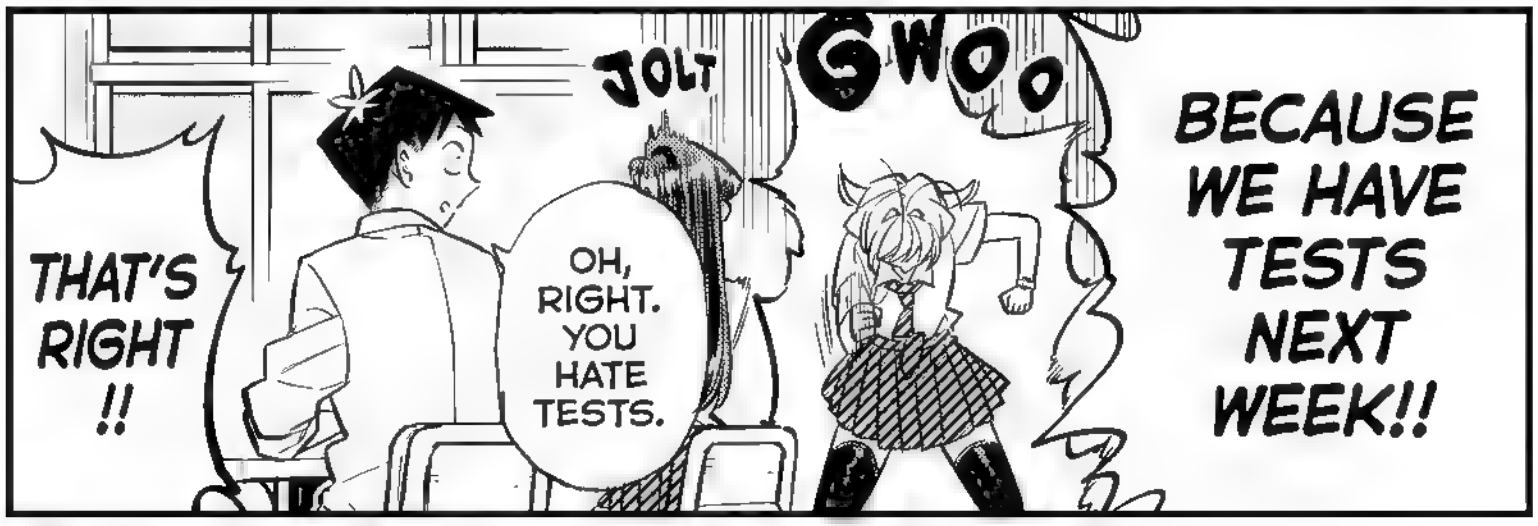
DON'T WORRY. I DON'T *REALLY* WANT TO. SORRY, KOMI.

TREMMMBLE

Don't die.

SNUP

OKAY! I'LL TELL YOU!
WHY? DID YOU JUST ASK WHY ?!
FINE, I'LL ASK. WHY?

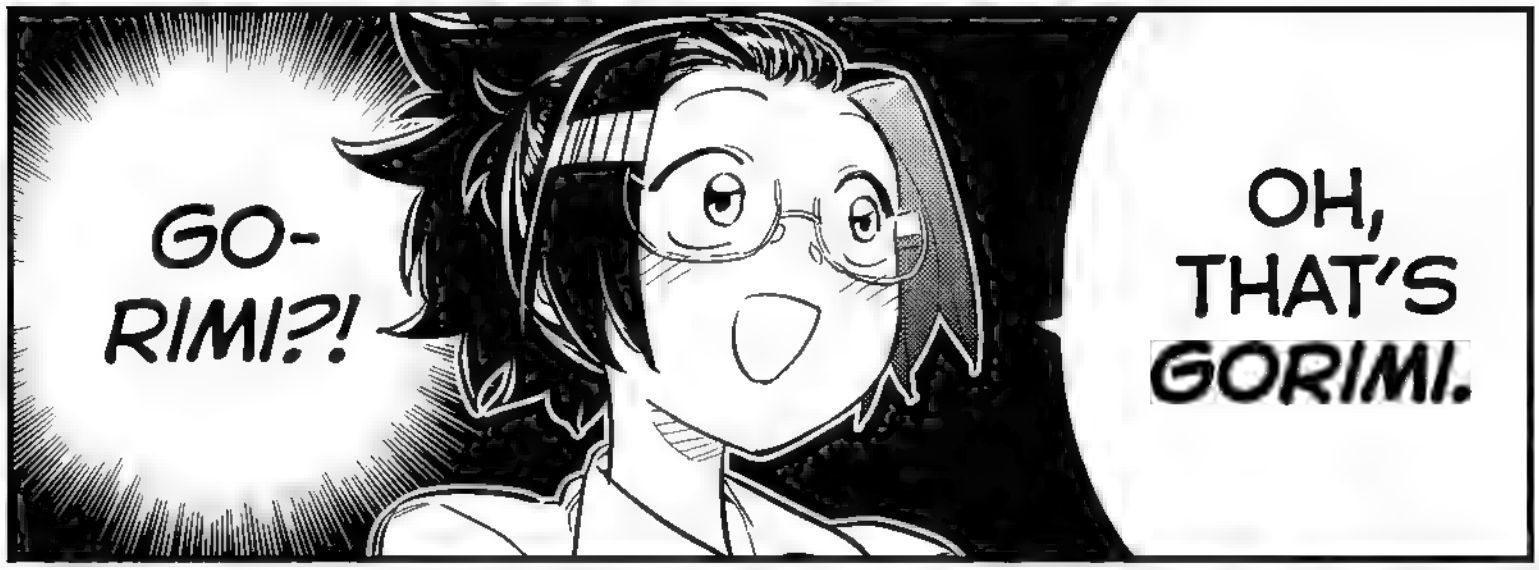

THAT'S RIGHT !!
OH, RIGHT. YOU HATE TESTS.
JOLT
GWOO
BECAUSE WE HAVE TESTS NEXT WEEK!!

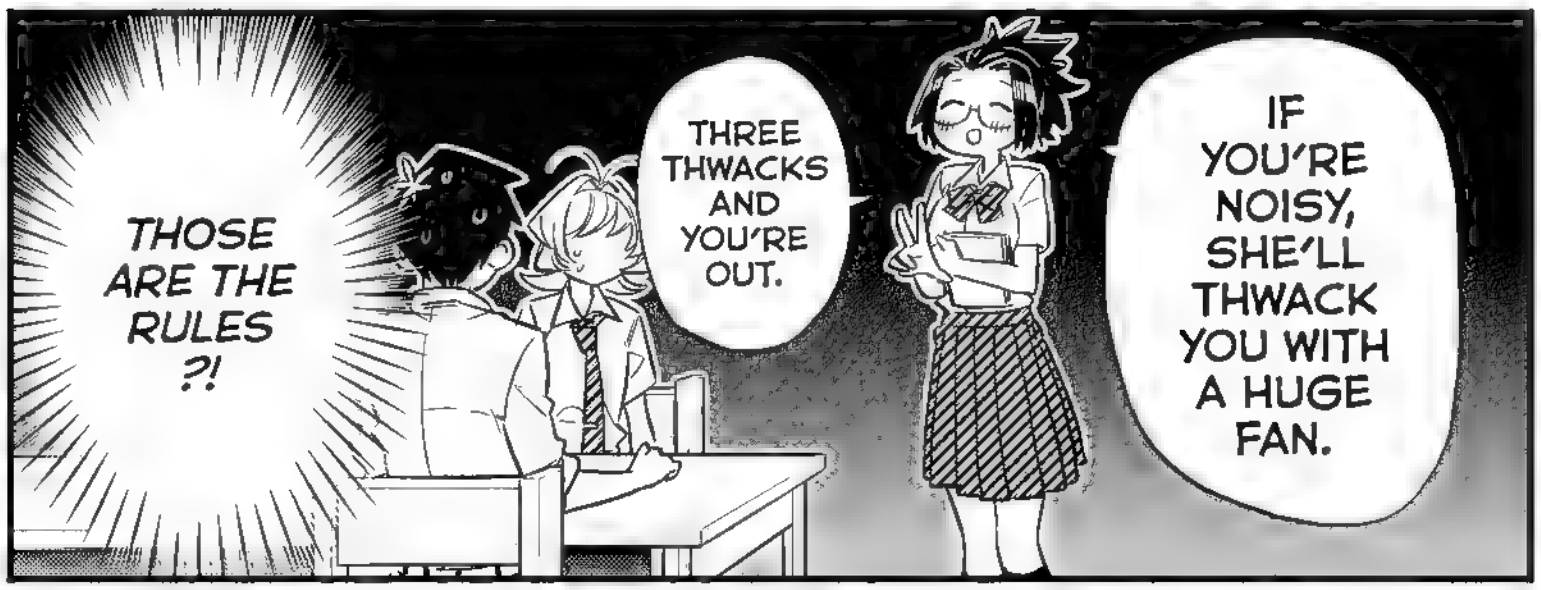
I JUST WANNA HAVE FUN ...
BUT WE DO THAT IN REGULAR CLASSES!
YOU CAN'T TALK ABOUT ANYTHING FUN! INSTEAD, YOU JUST STUDY IN SILENCE!
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER

UGH... NAJIMI HAS NO INTENTION OF STUDYING!
PING
Here's an idea! Let's all study together!!

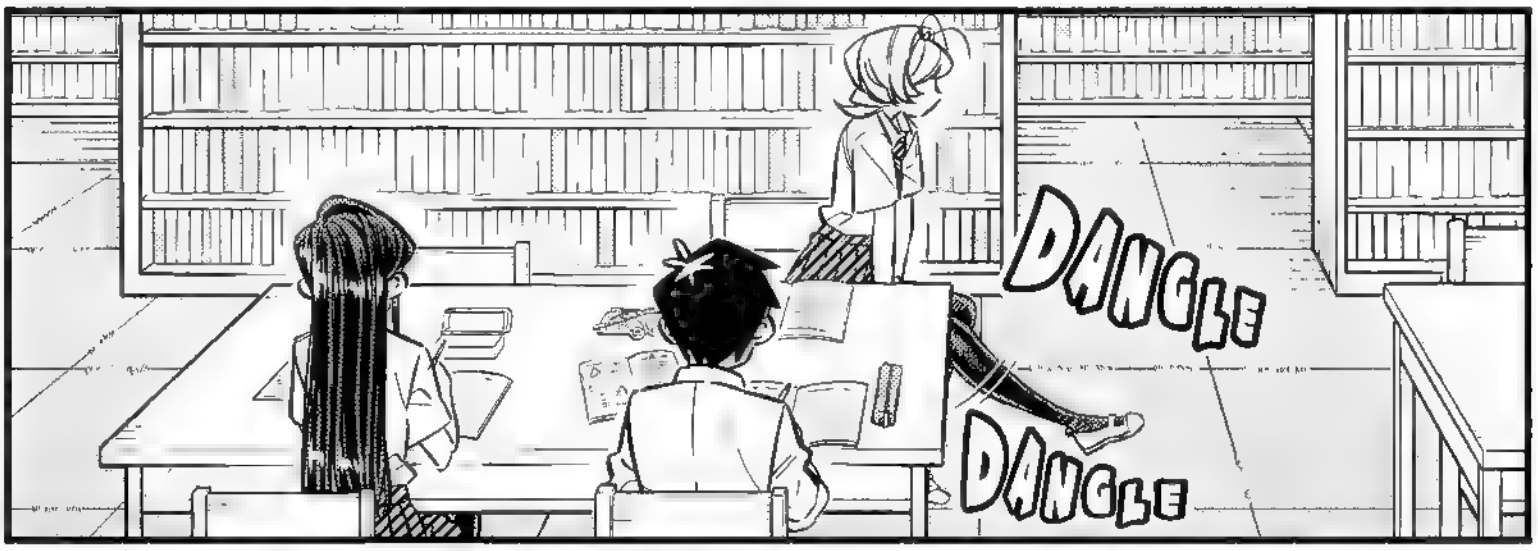
P-PLEASE! M-MAKE YOUR-SELVES AT H-HOME!
Librarian
Y-YOU ALL CAME! T-TO S-STUDY ?!
Library
LIBRARY
IN OTHER WORDS, NEVER.
T
I HAVEN'T BEEN IN A LIBRARY IN 15 YEARS!
N
?!
THWACK
AH HA HA! YOU'RE PRETTY SMART, TADA-
GAH!
?!
QUIET IN THE LIBRARY.

...
DOOM
PSST
WHAT'S WITH THAT GIRL?
PSST
AGARI ...
AGARI ...
PSST

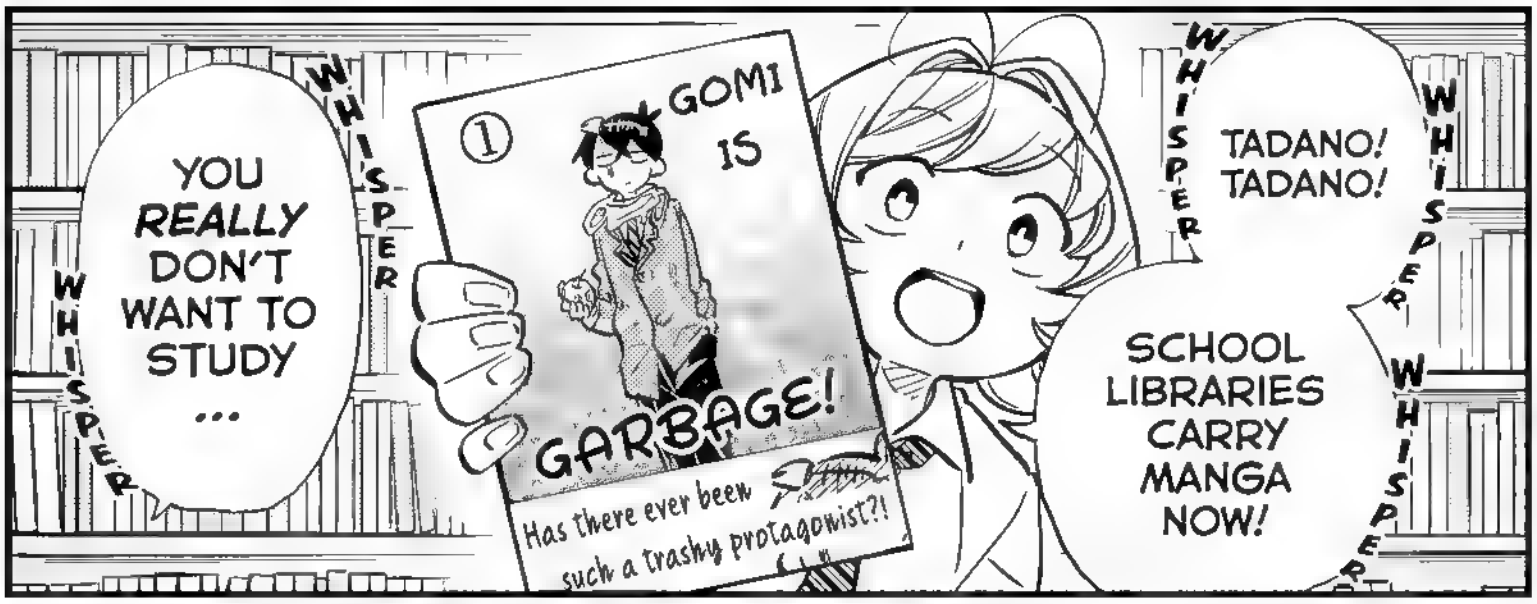

GO-RIMI?!
OH, THAT'S GORIMI.

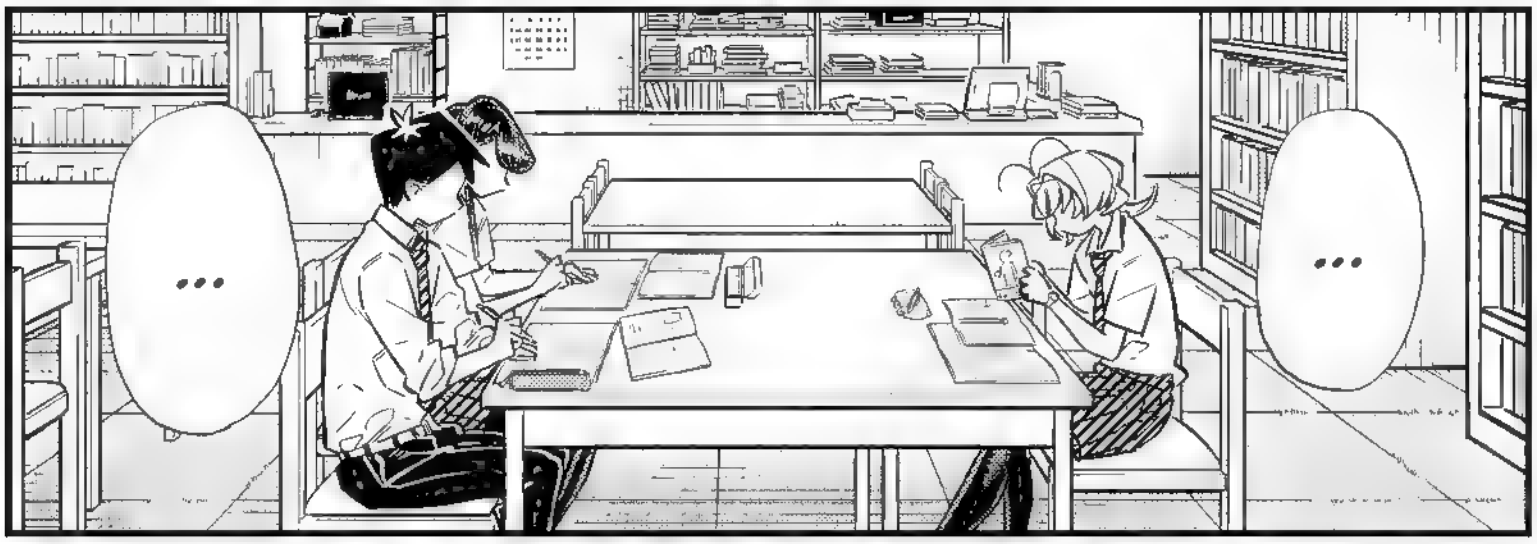

THOSE ARE THE RULES ?!
THREE THWACKS AND YOU'RE OUT.
IF YOU'RE NOISY, SHE'LL THWACK YOU WITH A HUGE FAN.

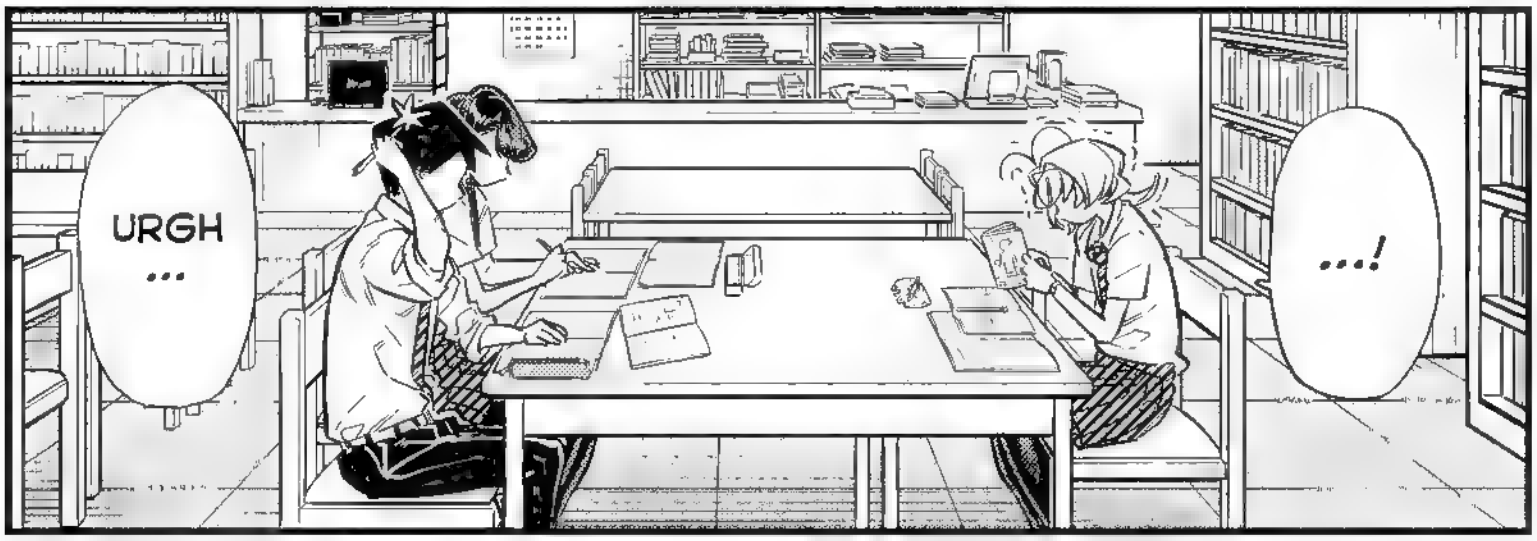
SKRK
...
SKRK
...
SKRK
...
UMMM
This goes like that and...

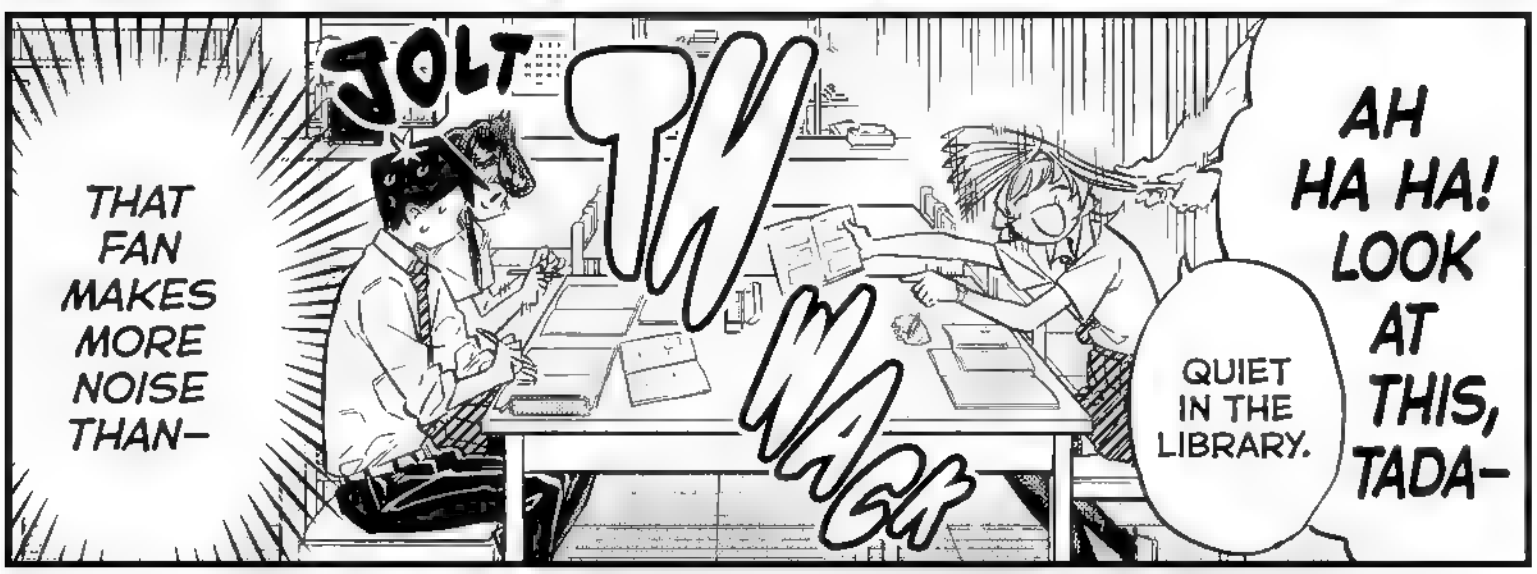

DANGLE
DANGLE

I REFUSE TO LAUGH.
I WON'T LAUGH.


WHISPER
YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO STUDY ...
①
GOMI IS GARBAGE!
Has there ever been such a trashy protagonist?!
WHISPER
TADANO! TADANO!
SCHOOL LIBRARIES CARRY MANGA NOW!
WHISPER


...
...


URGH ...
...!


JOLT
THAT FAN MAKES MORE NOISE THAN–
QUIET IN THE LIBRARY.
AH HA HA! LOOK AT THIS, TADA–

RUSTLE RUSTLE

Najimi has two strikes.

JUNGLE ?!

TA DUM

SWUP

?!

This is fun, Tadano ...

Th...

Heh heh heh...

HEY... GORIMI WILL *KILL* YOU IF YOU PLAY THAT!

PSST PSST

KOMI ?!

SMOOSH

Komi

NAJIMI HAS BEEN DRIVEN MAD BY HER RELUCTANCE TO STUDY!

!

NEXT IS *YOUR* TURN, TADANO!

PHEW

Komi took a piece without disaster.

SHE'S *GLARING* AT US!

GWOO

SH-SHE'S *STARING* AT US!

OOPS!

CLATTER

?!

NAJIMI

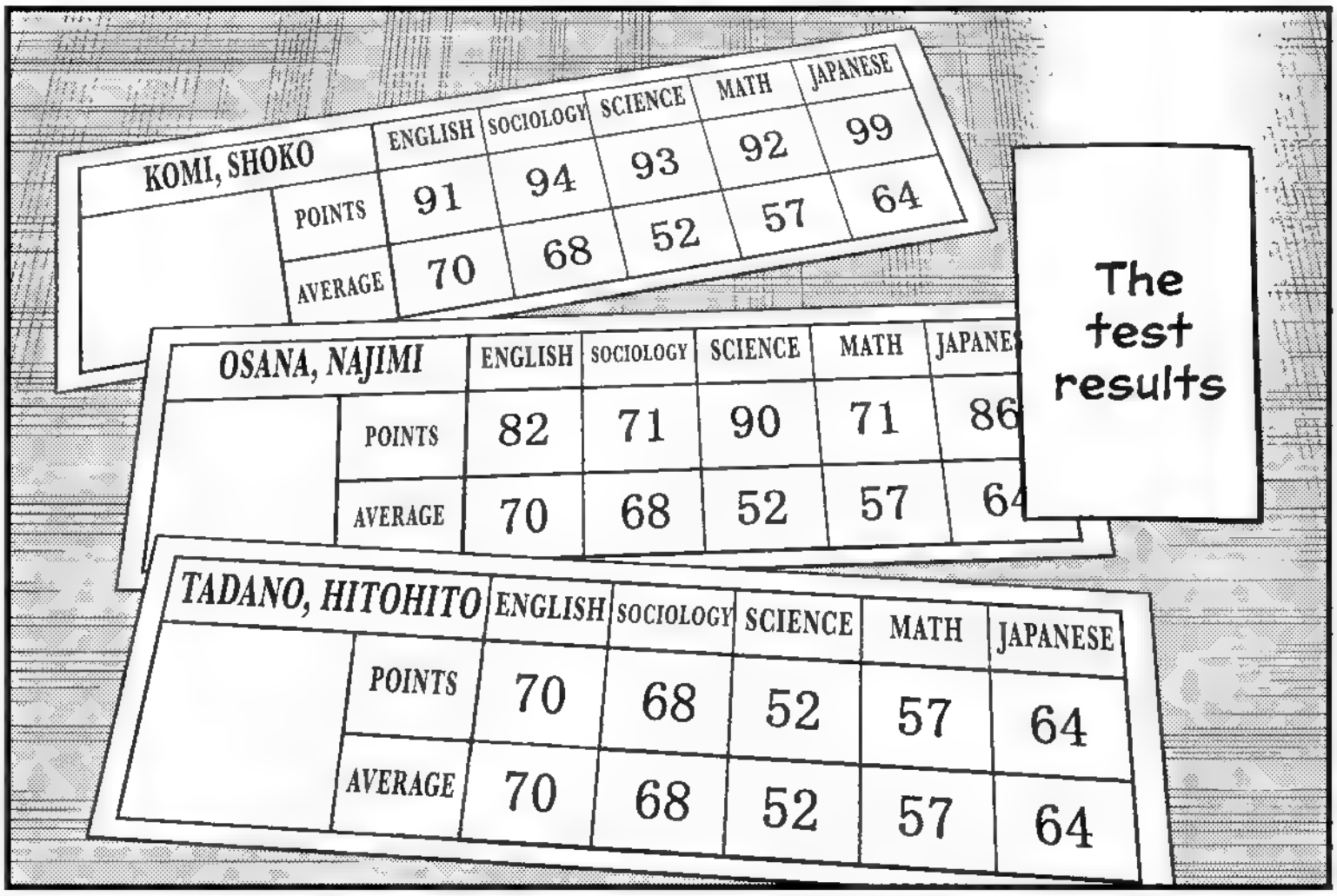
Gorimi thwacked all three of them. (Najimi: 3 strikes, out)

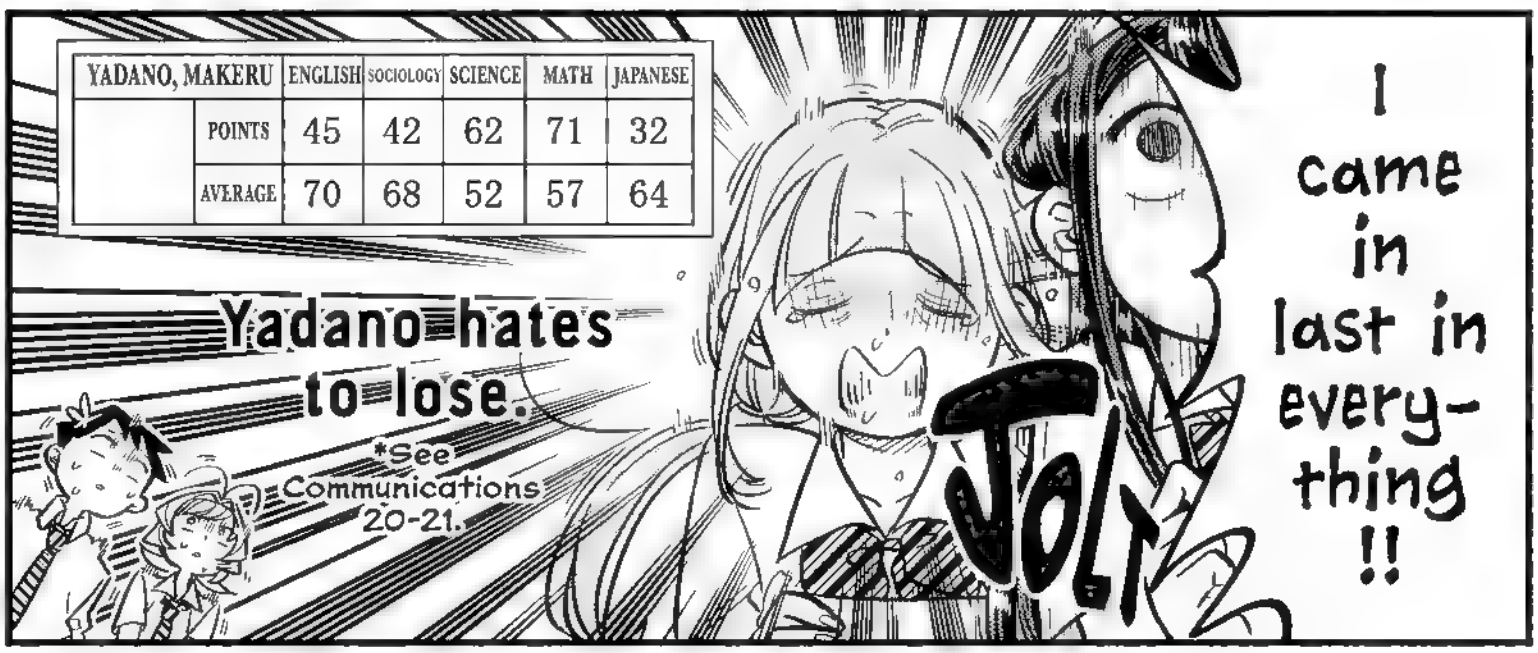
QUIET IN THE LIBRARY.

!
SORRY. WE CAME TO STUDY, BUT...
We got thwacked on the head!

SKRK
SKRK
SKRK
...
First time getting thwacked by a huge fan
F... FUN?
"It was fun."

Yes. I wanted to play.
WELL, SHALL WE GO FIND NAJIMI?
OH, UH... ME TOO.
All three left.


KOMI, SHOKO
ENGLISH SOCIOLOGY SCIENCE MATH JAPANESE
POINTS 91 94 93 92 99
AVERAGE 70 68 52 57 64
OSANA, NAJIMI
ENGLISH SOCIOLOGY SCIENCE MATH JAPANE
POINTS 82 71 90 71 86
AVERAGE 70 68 52 57 64
TADANO, HITOHITO
ENGLISH SOCIOLOGY SCIENCE MATH JAPANESE
POINTS 70 68 52 57 64
AVERAGE 70 68 52 57 64
The test results


YADANO, MAKERU ENGLISH SOCIOLOGY SCIENCE MATH JAPANESE
POINTS 45 42 62 71 32
AVERAGE 70 68 52 57 64
Yadano hates to lose.
*See Communications 20-21.
JOLT
I came in last in every-thing !!

Communication 36 — The End

Komi Can't Communicate

Summer vacation week: 1
Already finished all her summer home-work
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TRMBL
TRMBL
Times Komi has left the house: 0

Communication 37: Summer Vacation

Uneasy because she hasn't been outside in forever

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

...!

GRAB

catch!

...

STREEETCH

GLANCE

Cell phone

Spent one week working up the courage to invite a friend to do something, but couldn't do it

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

Notebook with conversation simulations

...

INVITING FRIENDS OUT

· GREETINGS:

GOOD MORNING
HELLO
GOOD EVENING.
HOW DO YOU DO? X
IT'S HOT TODAY, ISN'T IT?

TOO LONG?

DON'T STUMBLE OVER YOUR WORDS!!

TODAY?
TOMORROW?

DO YOU HAVE PLANS ON (DATE)? IF NOT, WOULD YOU LIKE TO ____?

WHAT WOULD BE A GOOD DESTINATION?

WAIT FOR REPLY.

OH, IS THAT SO? NO, THAT'S ALL RIGHT MAYBE NEXT TIME.

MAYBE TOO FORMAL

IF TOO SOON, YOUR PLANS MAY

· CAFE
· LIBRARY

FOR SHOPPING, ETC
· STATION
· DOWNTOWN?

IN THE SUMMER...
· CICADAS, BEETLES, BUGS
· SCARY STORIES, GRAVEYARD
· FESTIVALS

SHAVED ICE

CONSIDER ANY BUDGET CONSTRAINTS THE OTHER PERSON MAY HAVE

IF IT ISN'T FUN...

HMPH!

CHIRRRR
CHIRRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRRRR
CHIRR
CHIRR

She couldn't press the call button.

...

I'M BORED.

SLUMP

Tada-no's house

...AND I READ ALL THE NEW BOOKS I GOT.

I'M SICK OF PLAYING VIDEO GAMES ...

BLUH

BORED.

LIKE KOMI.

... WITH SOME-BODY.

I WANNA GO HANG OUT...

Younger sister.

HM? DON'T BE CREEPY.

WAP

NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO!

IF I INVITE HER, IT'D BE... YOU KNOW...

NO, NO...

BUT IF I KNOW KOMI...

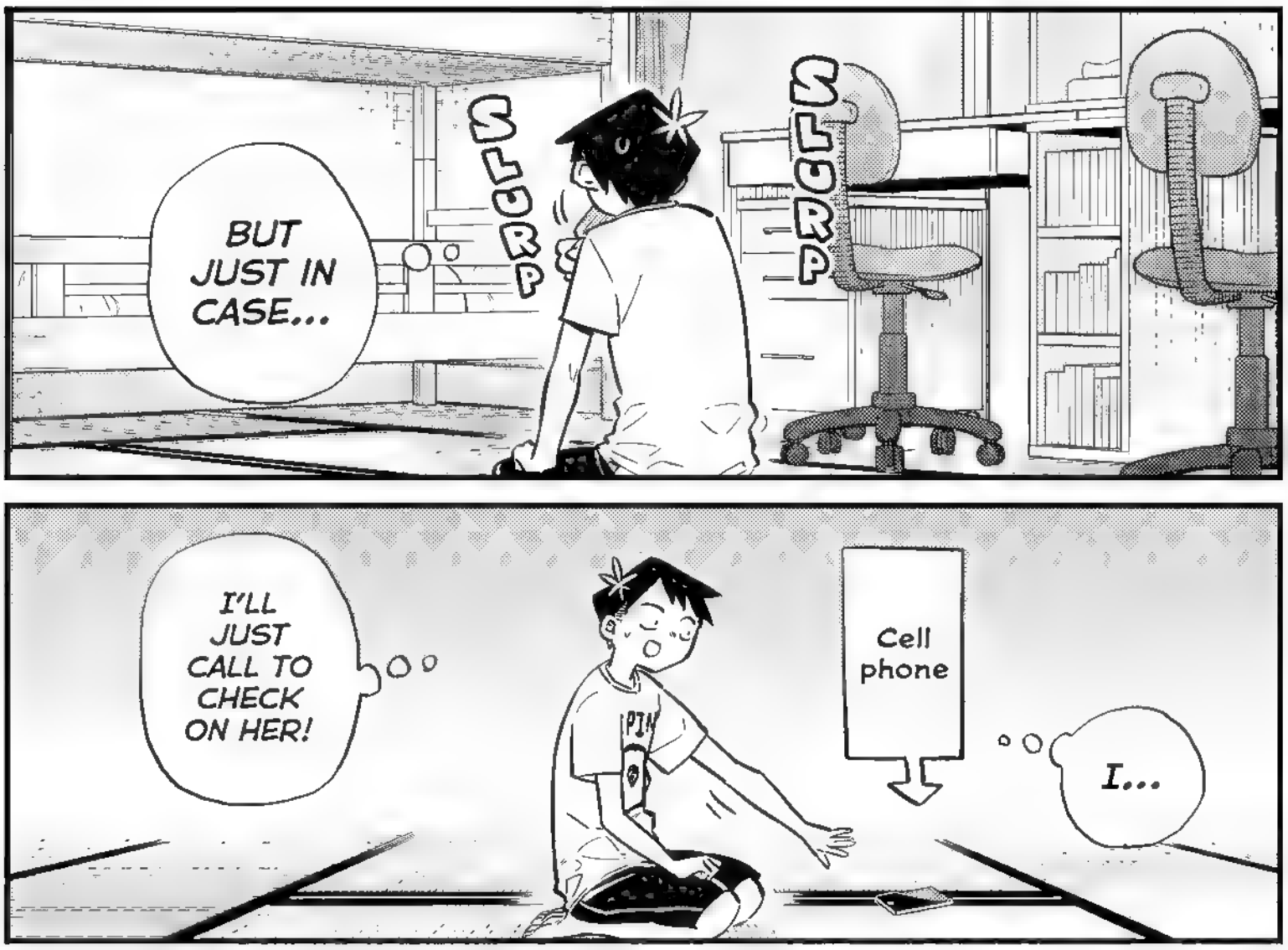
...AND WHEN THAT WAS FINISHED, SHE DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO, SO SHE STARTED TREMBLING AND STARING AT HER CELL PHONE, WHICH MEANS...

...SHE SPENT THE LAST WEEK WANTING TO INVITE A FRIEND SOMEWHERE BUT COULDN'T BRING HERSELF TO DO IT, SO SHE DID HER HOMEWORK FIRST...

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

SWIP SWIP SWIP

NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO!


BUT JUST IN CASE...
SLORP
SLORP
I'LL JUST CALL TO CHECK ON HER!
Cell phone
I...
UH...
UM...
Cell phone
SWOOO
IPIN
BUT ...
NO...
MOM! HITOHITO IS SICK!
GYAAAH
RING-A-RING
Ring-tone
JOLLLT

Finally managed to call Tadano

BABMP

BABMP

Komi's house

CLICK

GACK

Hanging up

The number you dialed is busy. Please, leave a message after the

!!

...

...

WILT

?!

JOLT

RRRING

CHIRR CHIRR

!

OH! HELLO, HELLO? KOMI? THIS IS EVERY-ONE'S OLD FRIEND NAJIMI!!

PHIK PHIK

!!

HEY! LET'S GO TO THE POOL TOMORROW! I INVITED TADANO TOO AND HE SAID OKAY! SO WHADDAYA SAY, KOMI?!

...

...

HM? KOMI? CAN YOU HEAR ME?

Hello? Hello?

!

NOD

...

YAHOO! LET'S MEET TOMORROW AT NOON IN FRONT OF YOMIKIRI LAND STATION! BYE!

CLICK

I... I'LL GO.

...

...

PONK

Communication 37 — The End

Communication 38: Meeting Up

CHIRR

CHIRR

CH

Pool day

SUPER

READY

TREMMMMMMBLE

Getting nervous as the meeting time approaches

Checking her bag again

...

Checking her bag for the seventh time

Clock

?!

!

SHOKO! ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME TO LEAVE?

KACHAK

NOD

YOUR BATHING SUIT?

YOUR TOWEL?

YOUR WALLET?

DO YOU HAVE EVERY-THING?

No time for all that

SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE

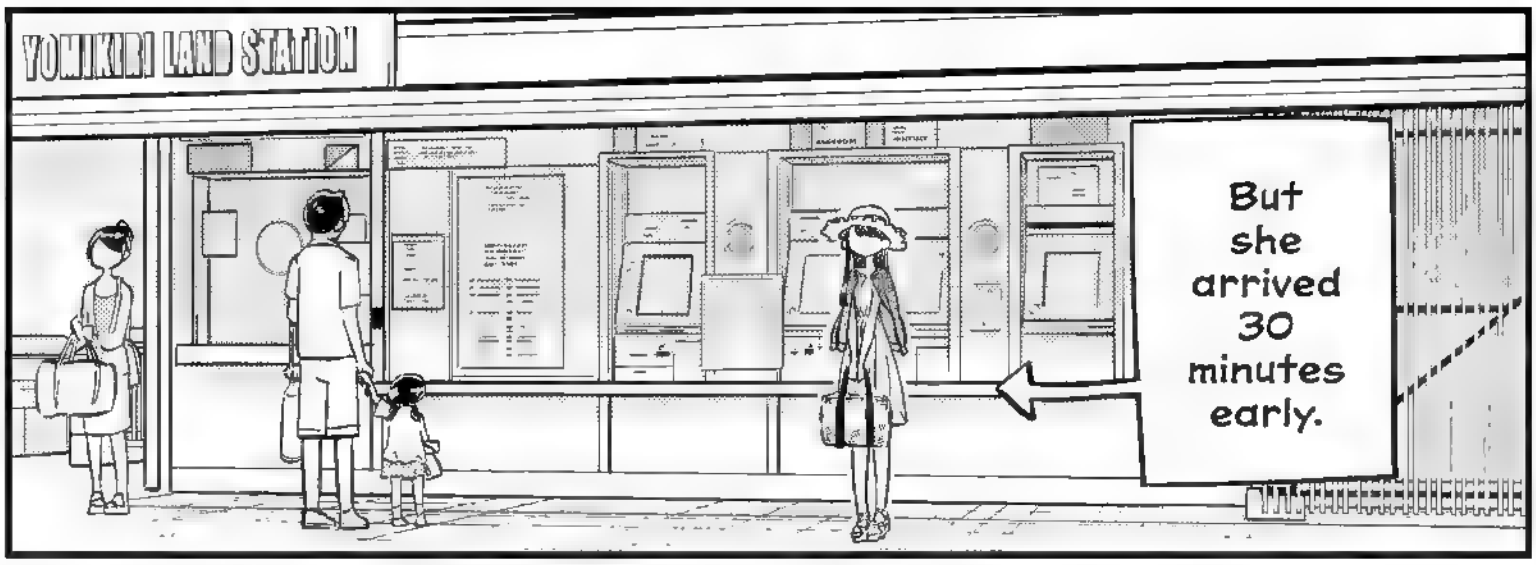
A BAG FOR CHANGE?

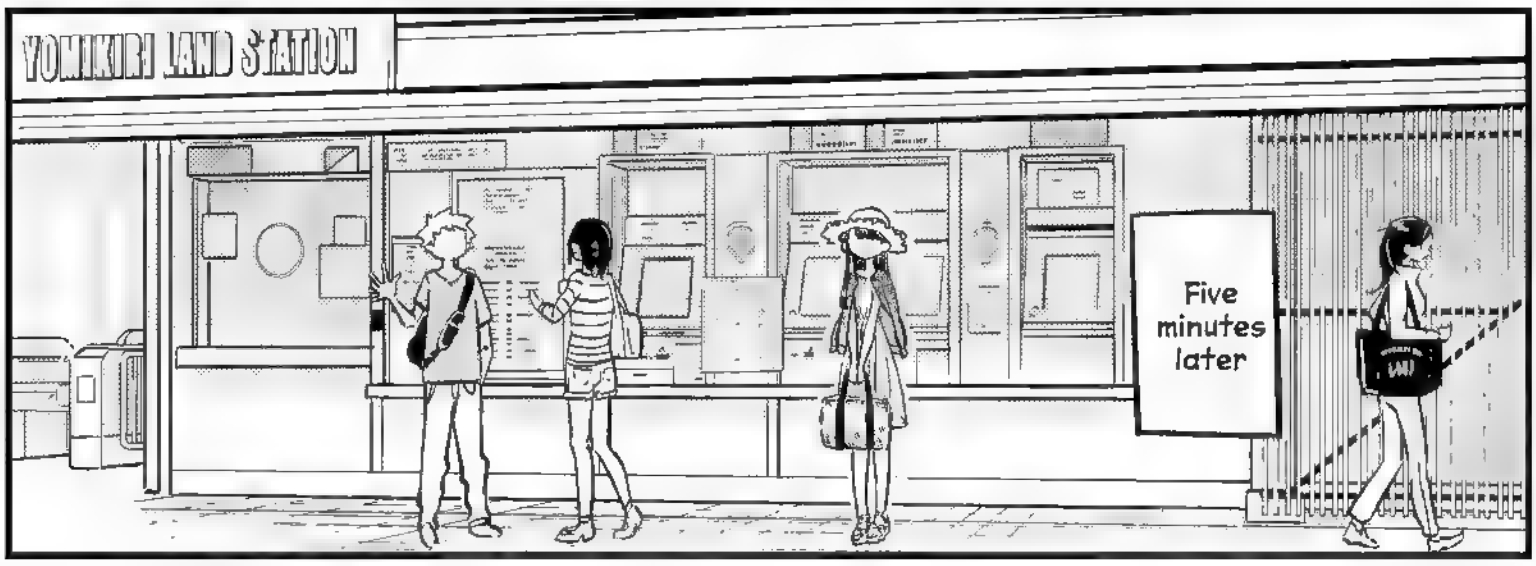
HANDKER-CHIEF?

BUG SPRAY?

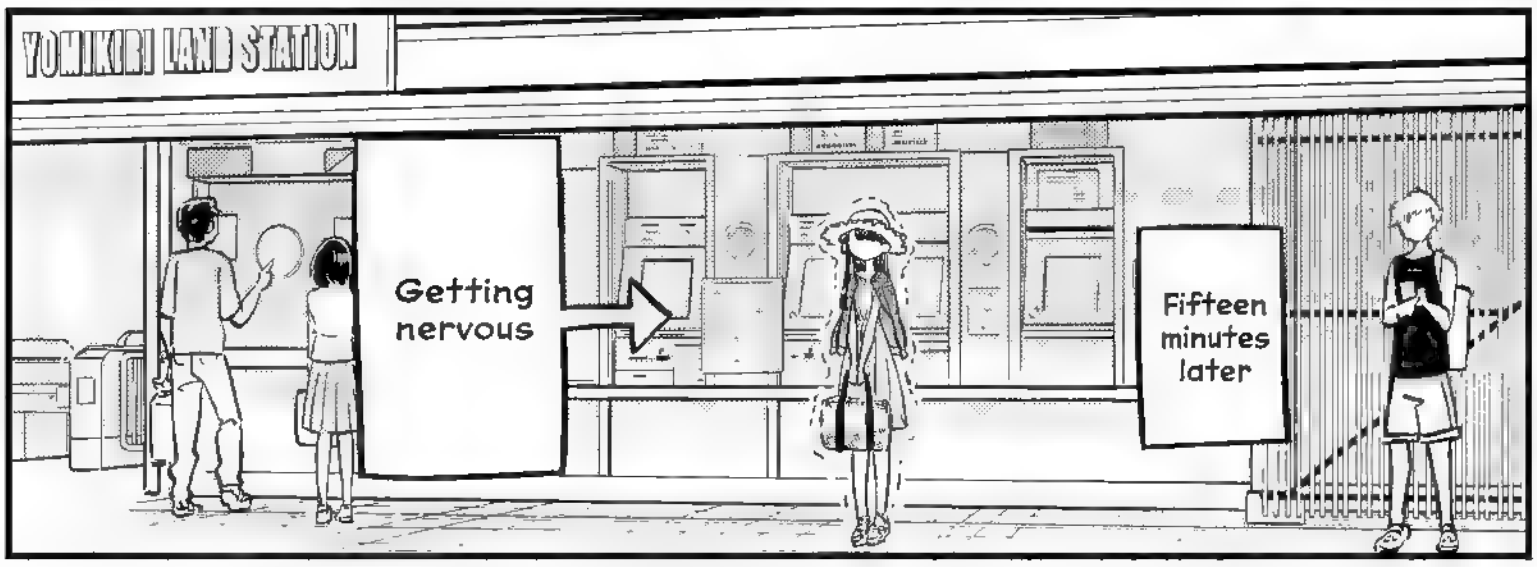
YOUR GOG-GLES?

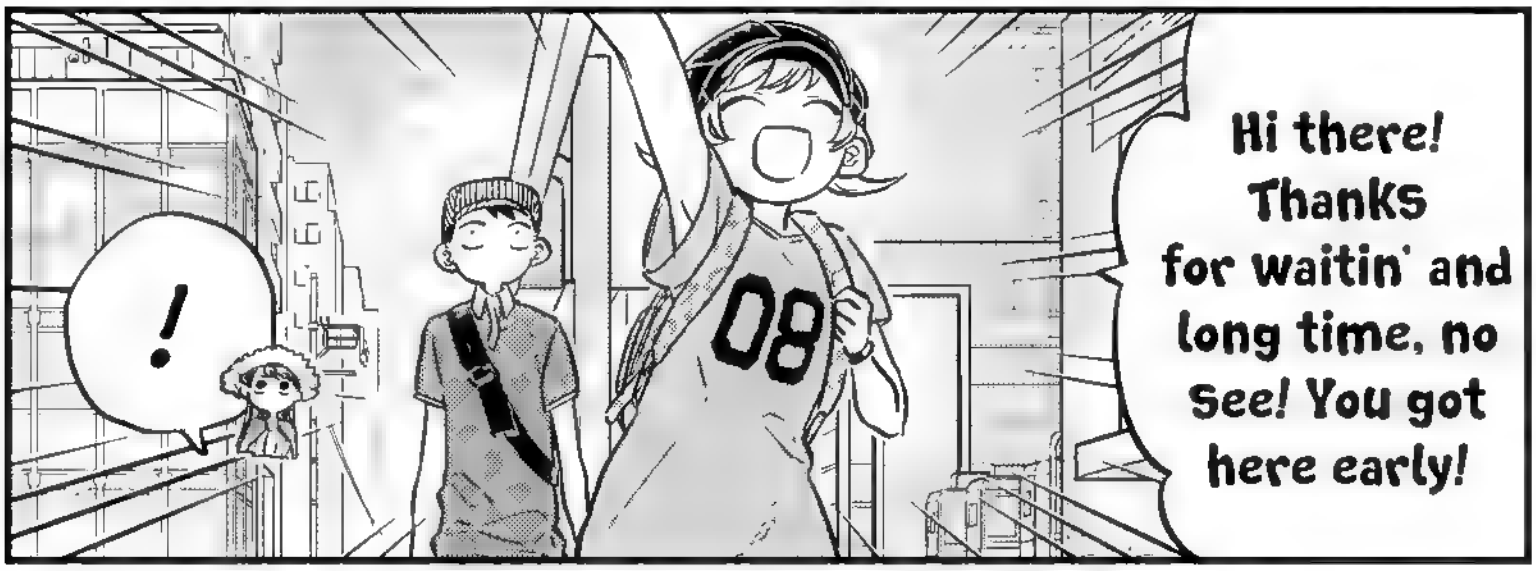
TIS-SUES?


YOMIKIRI LAND STATION
But she arrived 30 minutes early.


YOMIKIRI LAND STATION
Five minutes later

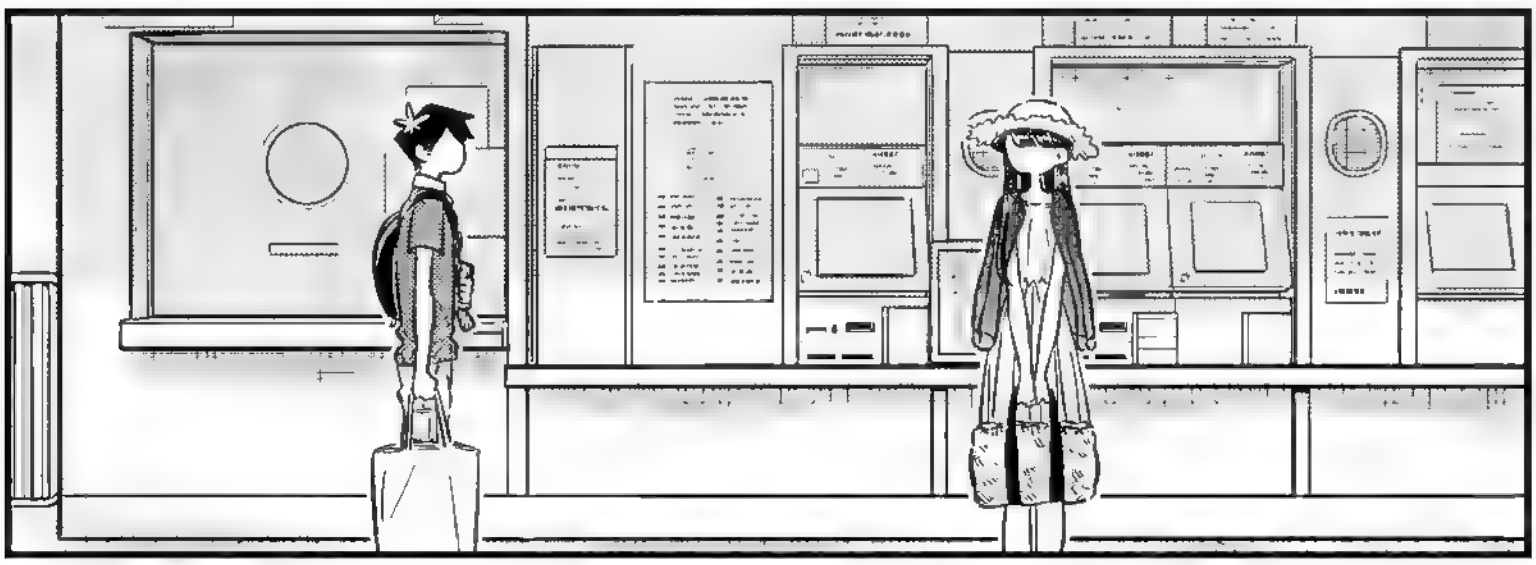
YOMIKIRI LAND STATION
Ten minutes later

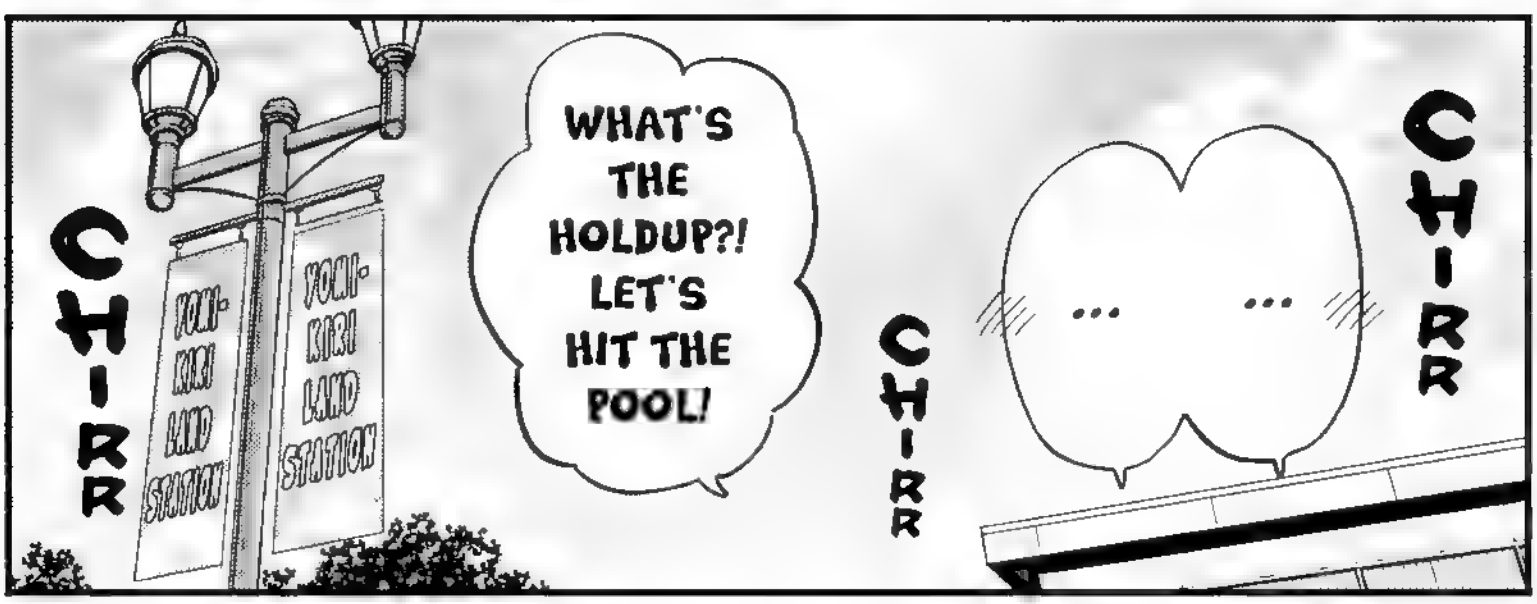

YOMIKIRI LAND STATION
Getting nervous
Fifteen minutes later


!
08
Hi there! Thanks for waitin' and long time, no see! You got here early!

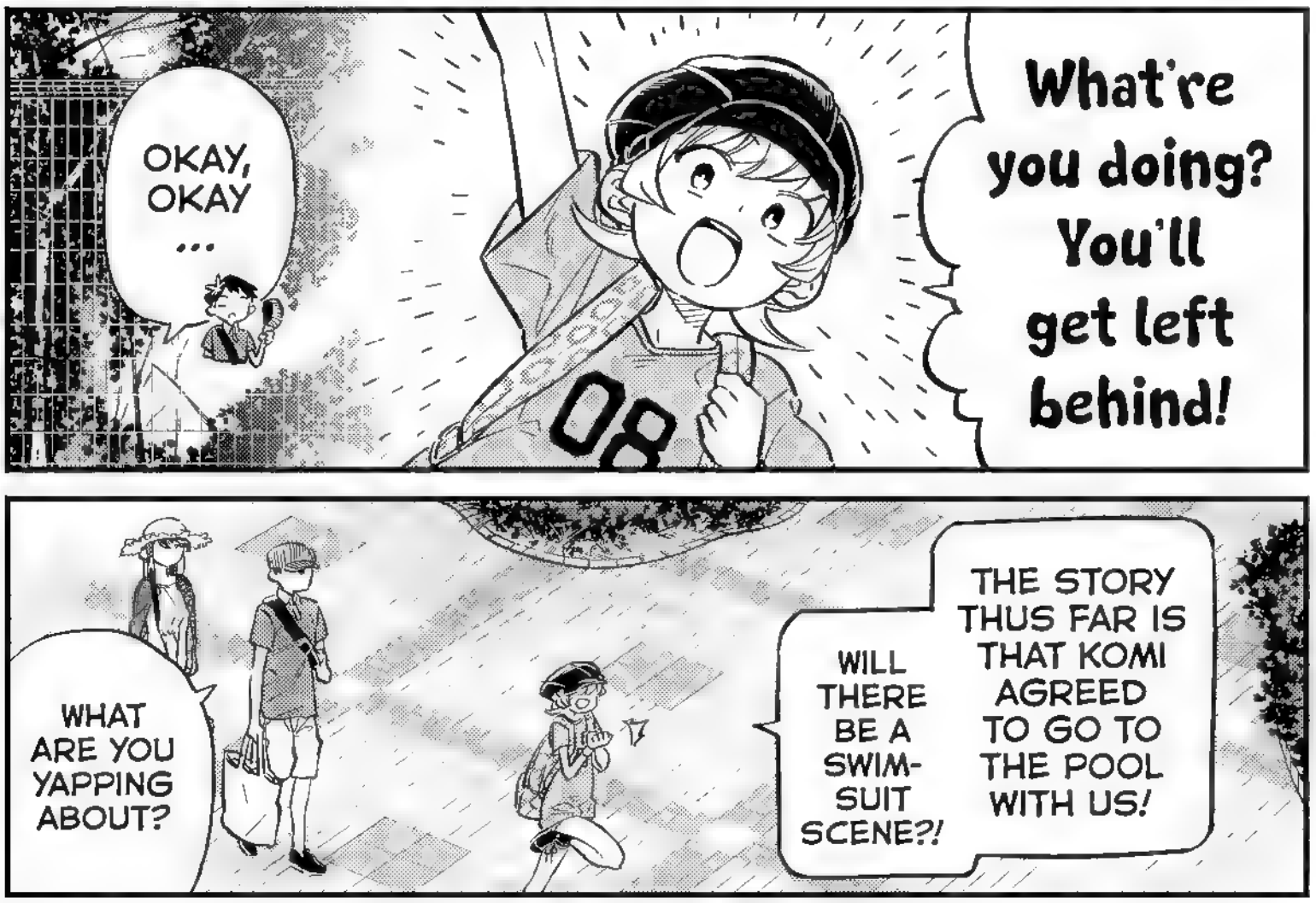
I like it! Looks good on you!
That's the dress Tadano picked out, isn't it?

All right, let's go!





Communication 38 – The End


OKAY, OKAY ...
What're you doing? You'll get left behind!
WHAT ARE YOU YAPPING ABOUT?
WILL THERE BE A SWIM-SUIT SCENE?!
THE STORY THUS FAR IS THAT KOMI AGREED TO GO TO THE POOL WITH US!
YOU'RE MEAN.
OOPS. I FORGOT I INVITED HER.
Ah ha ha!
JIGGLE
DEPARTMENT STORE
BOUNCE
W-WAIT FOR ME! D-DON'T LEAVE ME BEHIND !!
?!
HUH? I DIDN'T INVITE HER...
YAAAAY
WOO-HOO! DON'T FORGET MEEE!!

D-DÉJÀ VU!

*See Communication 33.

OH MY! KOMI'S HERE?! WHAT A *COINCIDENCE!!* WE CAME TO THE POOL TOO!

HOW ABOUT YOU, KOMI?

NO... I'M GOOD.

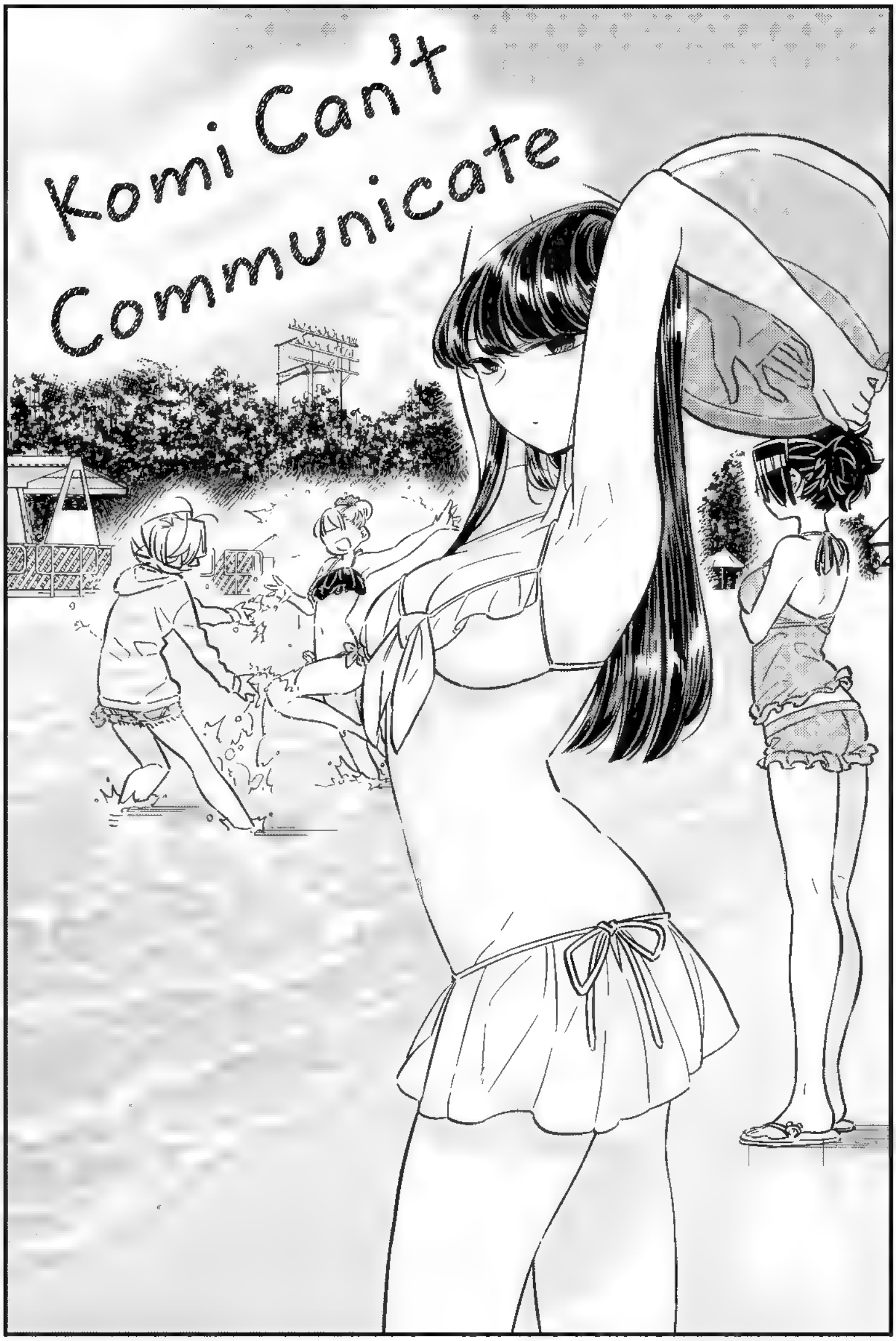
YAY YAY

HERE'S AN IDEA! SHALL WE ALL HANG OUT *TOGETHER*?

Extra nervous because of the greater numbers

TREMMMMBLE

N-NOD



Communication 39: The Pool

PEO-
PLE!

THE
POOL!

SUN-
LIGHT
!

SUM-
MER!

POOL

First time at the pool

GLEAM

GLEAM

...!

GLEAM

STAGGER

Drunk on too many people

KOMI
?!

KOMI! THE CHANGING ROOM IS OVER HERE!

!

CATCH YA LATER, TADA-NO!

OKAY.

Wait for me!

...

HUH?

WHAD-DAYA MEAN "HUH" ?!

WAIT. WHICH CHANGING ROOM DO YOU USE?

ULP... THE TIME HAS COME!

Changing room

Komi's house

Will Komi come out today?

FINALLY, WAITING OUTSIDE KOMI'S HOUSE FOR THE LAST EIGHT DAYS IS GOING TO PAY OFF!

I WONDER WHAT KIND SHE HAS!

KOMI IN A SWIM-SUIT ...

KOMI CHANGING CLOTHES ...

KOMI'S SKIN!

?!

P.E. swim-suit

SHUF

KOMI

RUB RUB
DOESN'T SHE HAVE A DIFFERENT ONE?!
HER P.E. SWIM-SUIT ?!
HM? HUH? HER ...
IN FACT, I'D LOVE IT, BUT ...
...I WOULD LIKE TO SEE HER IN THAT ...
NO WAY... BUT ...
...

Yamai doesn't want to reveal Komi's idiosyn-crasies to the masses.
GRAB
?!
KOMI
KOMI, LET'S GO BUY YOU A SWIM-SUIT.

It's hot!

Whew! It sure is sizzling out!

Thanks for waitin'!

Was forced to change in the unisex room

...

10 POINTS.

10 POINTS.

10 POINTS.

S-S-SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!

I T-TOOK A LONG TIME GETTING CHANGED!

10 POINTS.

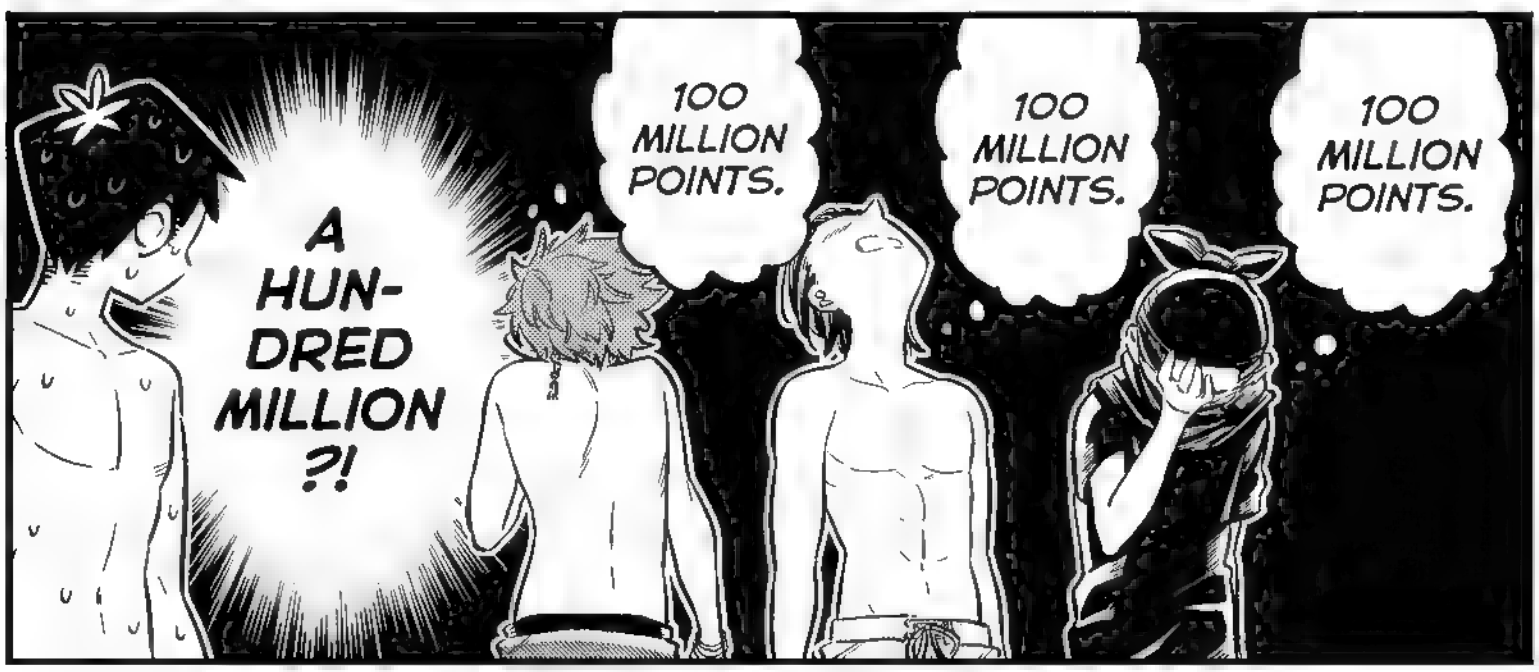
10 POINTS.

10 POINTS.

...

IT SURE IS CROWDED HERE!
DID YOU CLAIM A SPOT ?
YOU LIKE THEM ALL, HUH?
10 POINTS X 3.
10 POINTS X 3.
10 POINTS X 3.

...
...
SWUF


A HUN-DRED MILLION ?!
100 MILLION POINTS.
100 MILLION POINTS.
100 MILLION POINTS.

TWO PEOPLE GO AT ONCE. DO IT WITH ME, AGARI!
O-OKAY!
Water-slide
HUH?
YOU'LL MAKE A GOOD CUSHION IN AN EMER-GENCY!

SWOoo
THOK THOK
KOMI, RIDE IT WITH ME!
OW!
RIDE IT WITH ME, KOMI!
NO, NO! WITH ME!
OW!
??!
!
ROCK PAPER
THAT KID'LL DO! GET OVER HERE!

GRRR
UM...I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND.
SLOOSH
FWOOF
On the slide

...
FWOOR

Tadano decided he liked it.
TH-THIS ISN'T SO BAD!

SPL OOSH
...
...
ARE Y-YOU ALL RIGHT?
Clear the slide pool!
TRMBL
TRMBL
WANNA DO IT AGAIN?
Wants to do it again

LET'S SEE WHO CAN HOLD THEIR BREATH THE LONGEST!

AND THE LOSERS HAVE TO BUY DRINKS FOR THE WINNER!

1

Komi did it four more times.

PUNK

READY ... GO!

...

Najimi

Everyone bought drinks for Komi.
GASP
KOFF KOFF
SPLAAASH

AH HA HA

Komi got nine drinks.

SPLASH

SPLASH

COEEK!

I HOPE IT DOESN'T BOTHER HER.

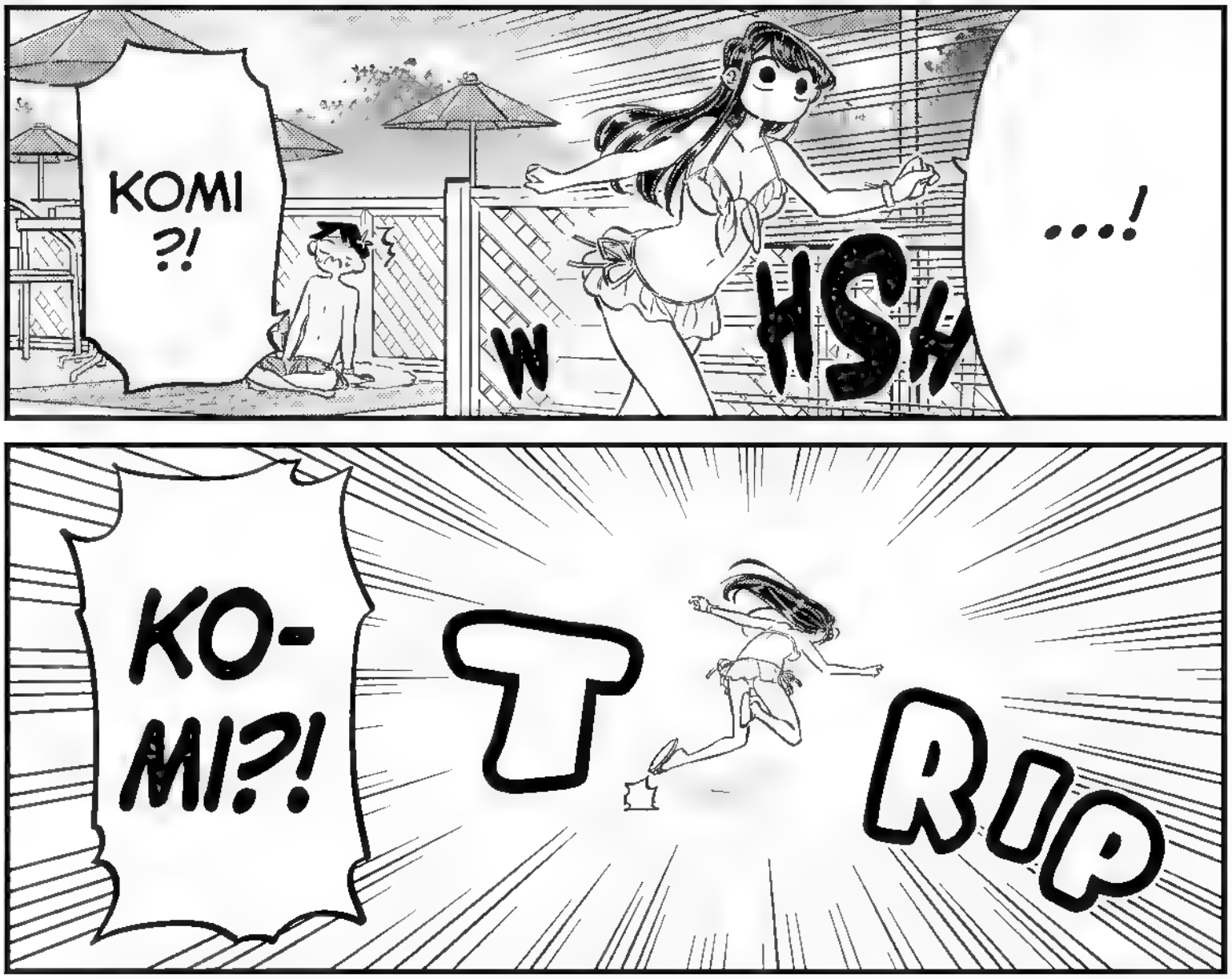
UM... ... THAT'S A LOT OF DRINKS, HUH?

Having fun

GULP

OH, UH... NOTHING.

...?



Communication 39 — The End

DISASTER STRIKES AGAIN
KOMIiii!!
KOMI...

Komi Can't Communicate

TU TU

The story thus far...

Wa ha ha ha! This is a blast!

DON'T RUN. YOU'LL SLIP.

Komi went to the pool with her friends ...

HSH

Let's hit the diving board next!!

KOMI ?!

W

HSH

...!

KO MI?

...and tripped.

RIP

Communication 40: Just a Scrape

THERE. GO EASY ON IT, OKAY?

FIRST AID

KOMI! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

RUSH

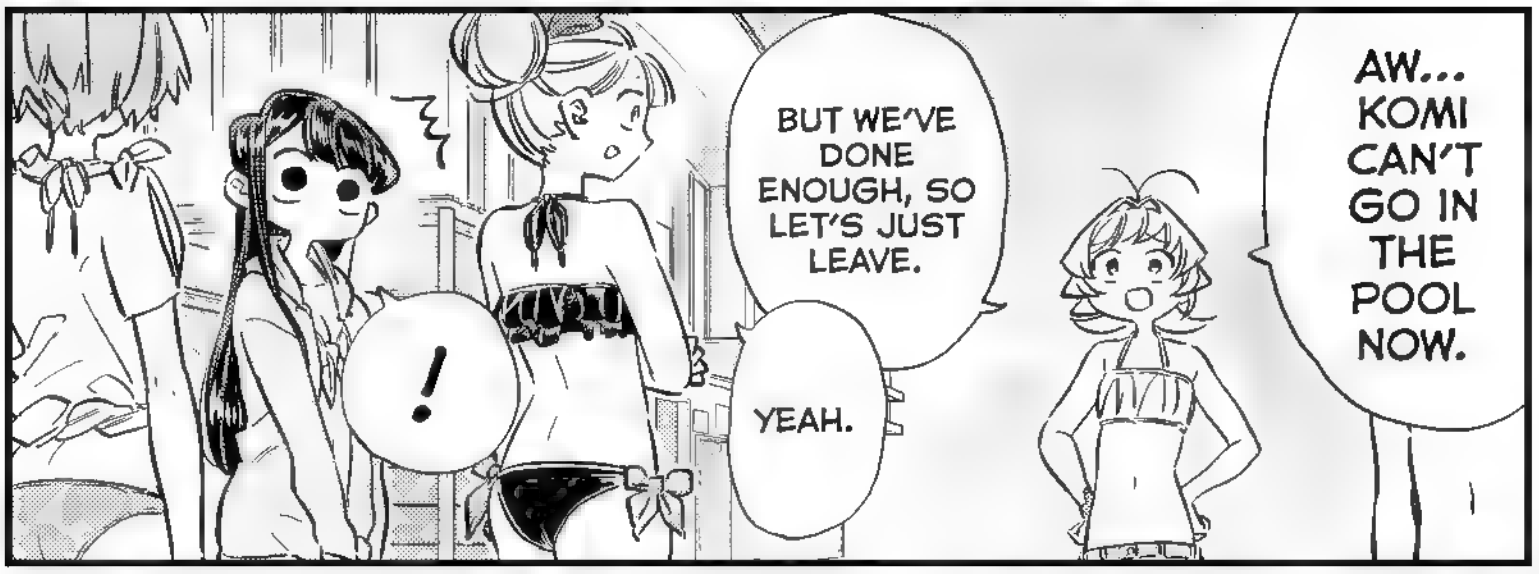
RUSH

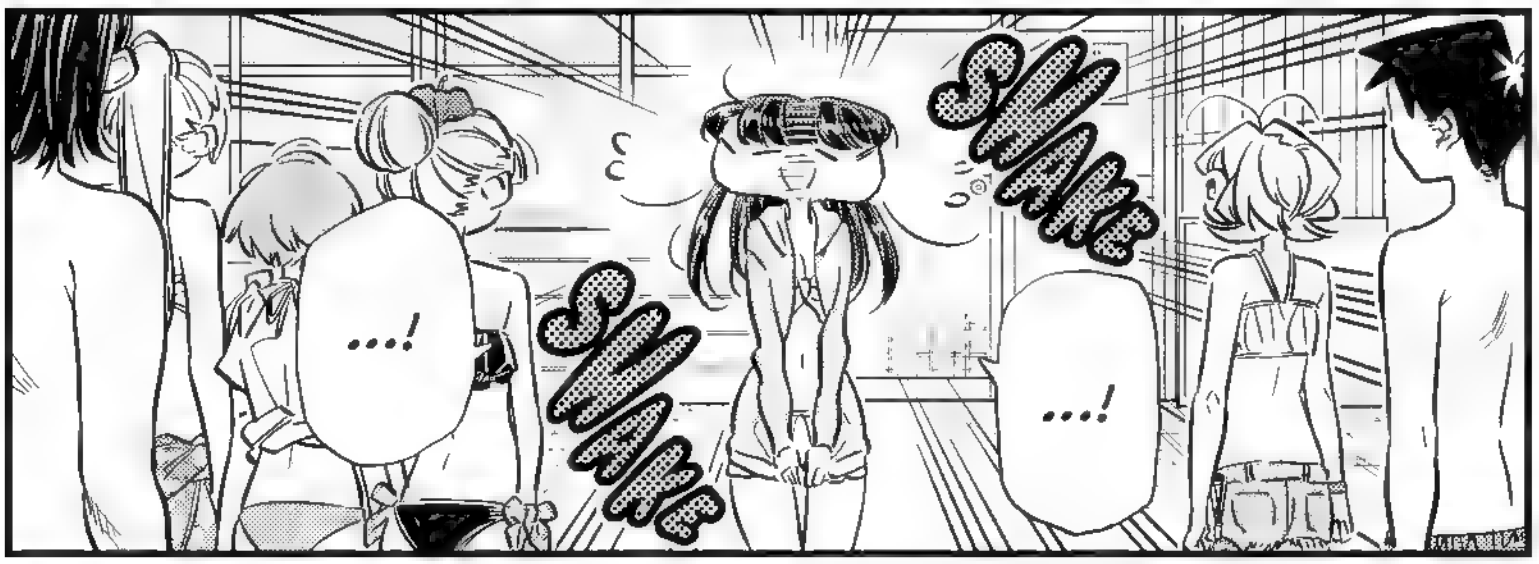
TEETER

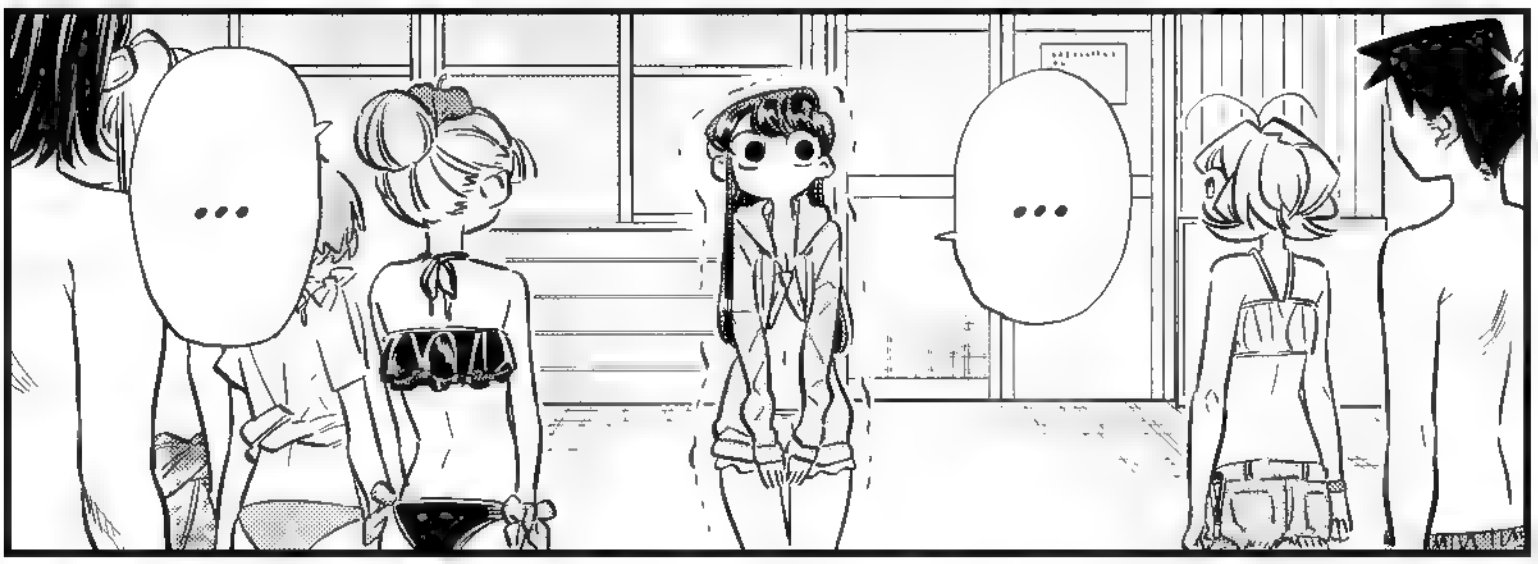
TOTTER

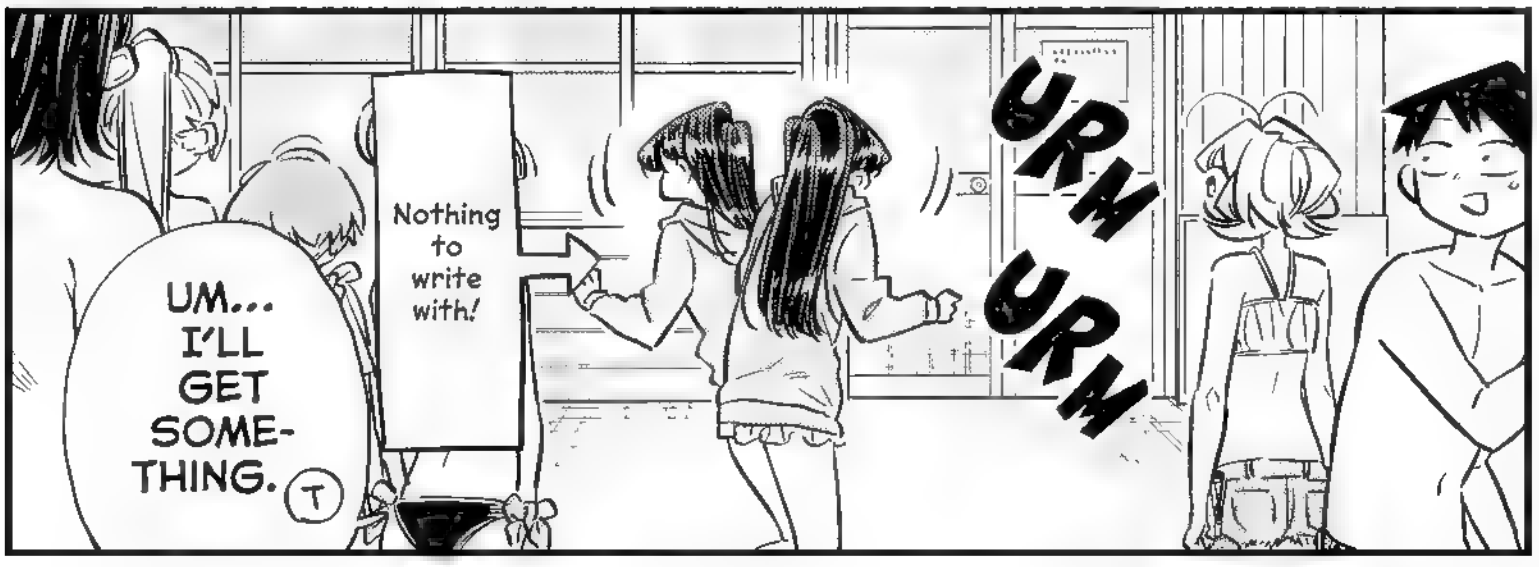
NOD

UH-OH! THE MOOD TURNS AWKWARD WHEN EVERYONE IS HAVING FUN AND SOMEONE GETS HURT!


AW... KOMI CAN'T GO IN THE POOL NOW.
BUT WE'VE DONE ENOUGH, SO LET'S JUST LEAVE.
YEAH.
!


...!
SWIMS
SWIMS
...!


...
...


UM... I'LL GET SOME-THING.
Nothing to write with!
URM
URM

HUH? BUT...

Don't worry about me. Keep having fun.

What a fast mood change!!

BWAAAH

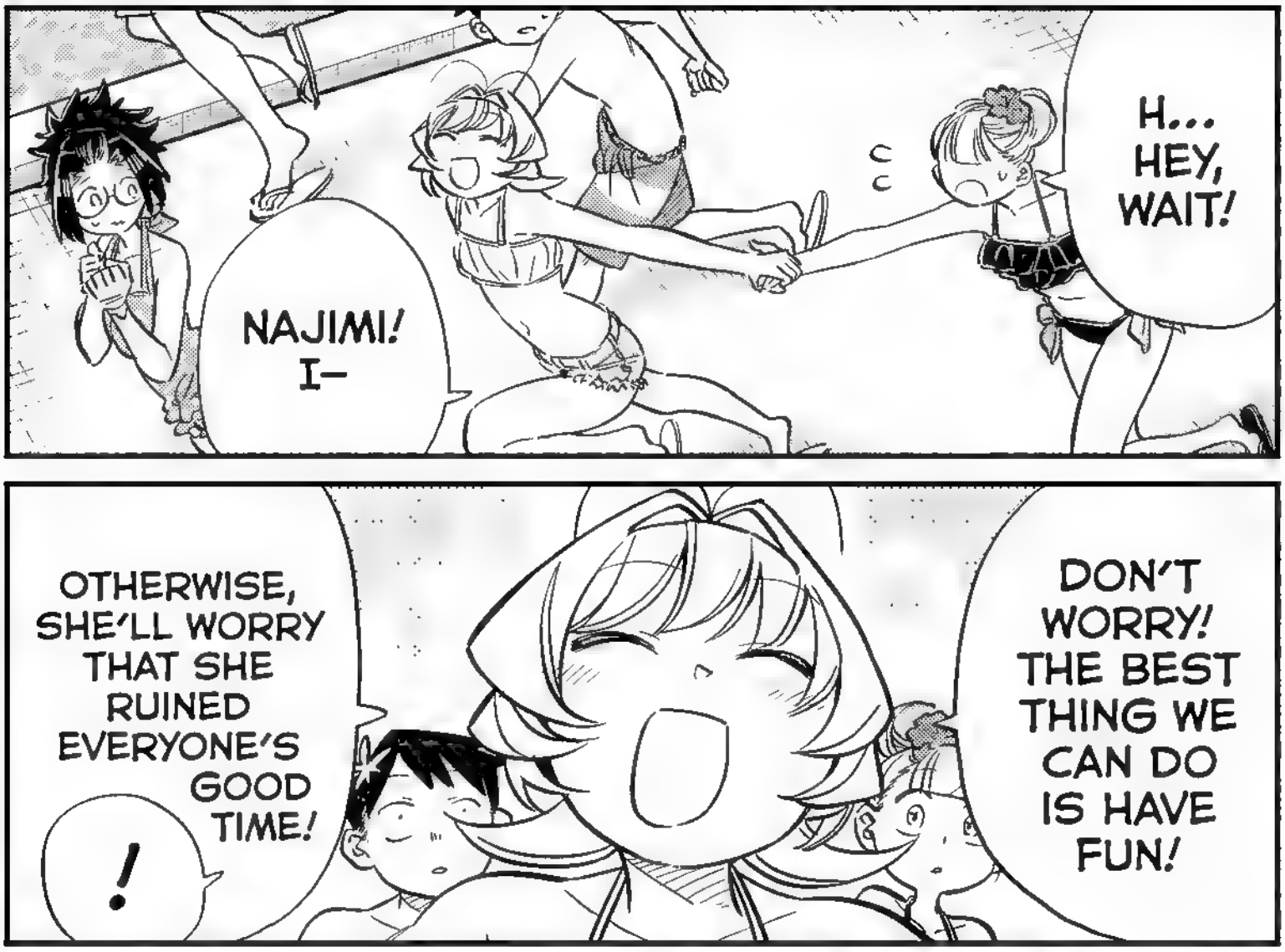
Okay! Let's hit the endless river again!

NOD

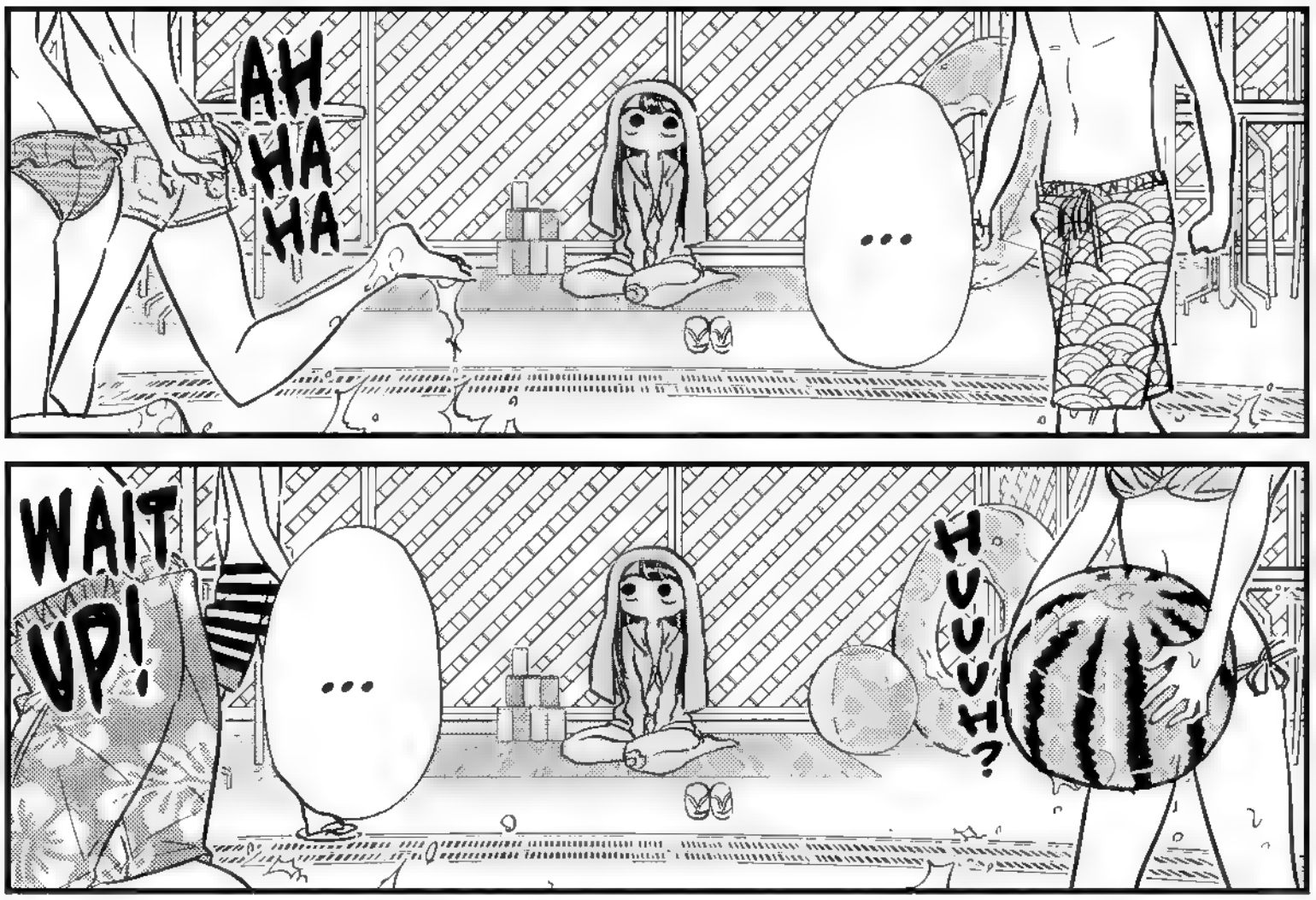
Komi, you can watch our stuff!

Yamai! Tadano! Get a move on!

...


NAJIMI! I—
H... HEY, WAIT!
OTHERWISE, SHE'LL WORRY THAT SHE RUINED EVERYONE'S GOOD TIME!
!
DON'T WORRY! THE BEST THING WE CAN DO IS HAVE FUN!

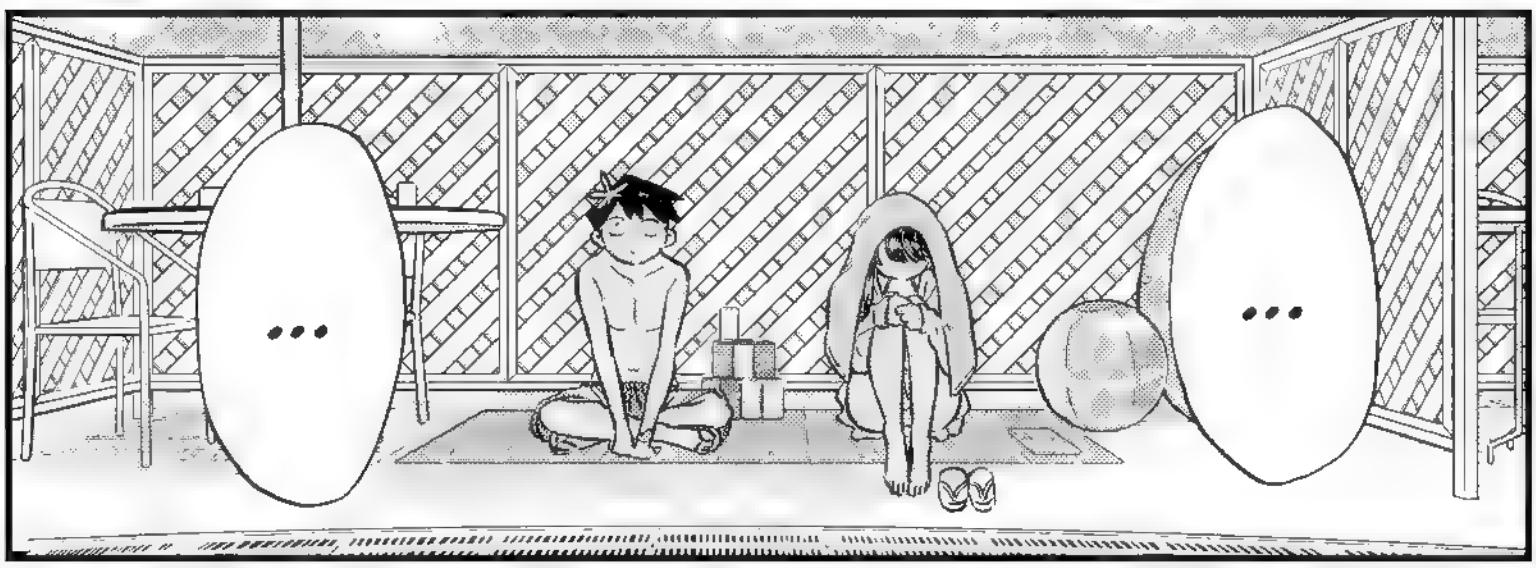
HM? HAVEN'T I ALWAYS BEEN?
NAJIMI... YOU'RE BEING SURPRISINGLY CONSIDERATE.
?!
SWUP
File
I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT I CAN'T SWIM RIGHT NOW BECAUSE I HAVE TO FILE DOWN THE SPOT IN THE DECK THAT MADE KOMI TRIP.


AH HA HA HA
...
WAIT UP!
...
HUUUH?

KYA HA HA HA
...
ALL RIGHT!
AH HA HA HA
...
WAAAAH
...
KYA HA HA HA

?!
JOLT
OH, SORRY. I DIDN'T MEAN TO STARTLE YOU.
DOES IT STILL HURT?

UM, I'M TIRED. SO I'M TAKING A BREAK.
Why aren't you swimming?
TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL


...
...

...?

DON'T WORRY.

??

Yeah, I don't get it either...

AND YAMAI IS FILING DOWN THE BUMP THAT TRIPPED YOU.

KILL

NAJIMI AND AGARI ARE PLAYING HARD SO YOU WON'T FEEL BAD.

YOU HAVE GREAT FRIENDS, SO DON'T WORRY.

THEY WON'T DISLIKE YOU.

...!
...
...
...
It was
fun.

"But I ruined it."

'S SEE O CAN O THEIR EATH THE GEST!

CLENCH

"I was having fun with everyone at the pool."

CLENCH

I dislike myself.

SPW ASH

!!

KOMI!

EVERY-ONE WILL FEEL BAD IF YOU LOOK GLOOMY.

...!

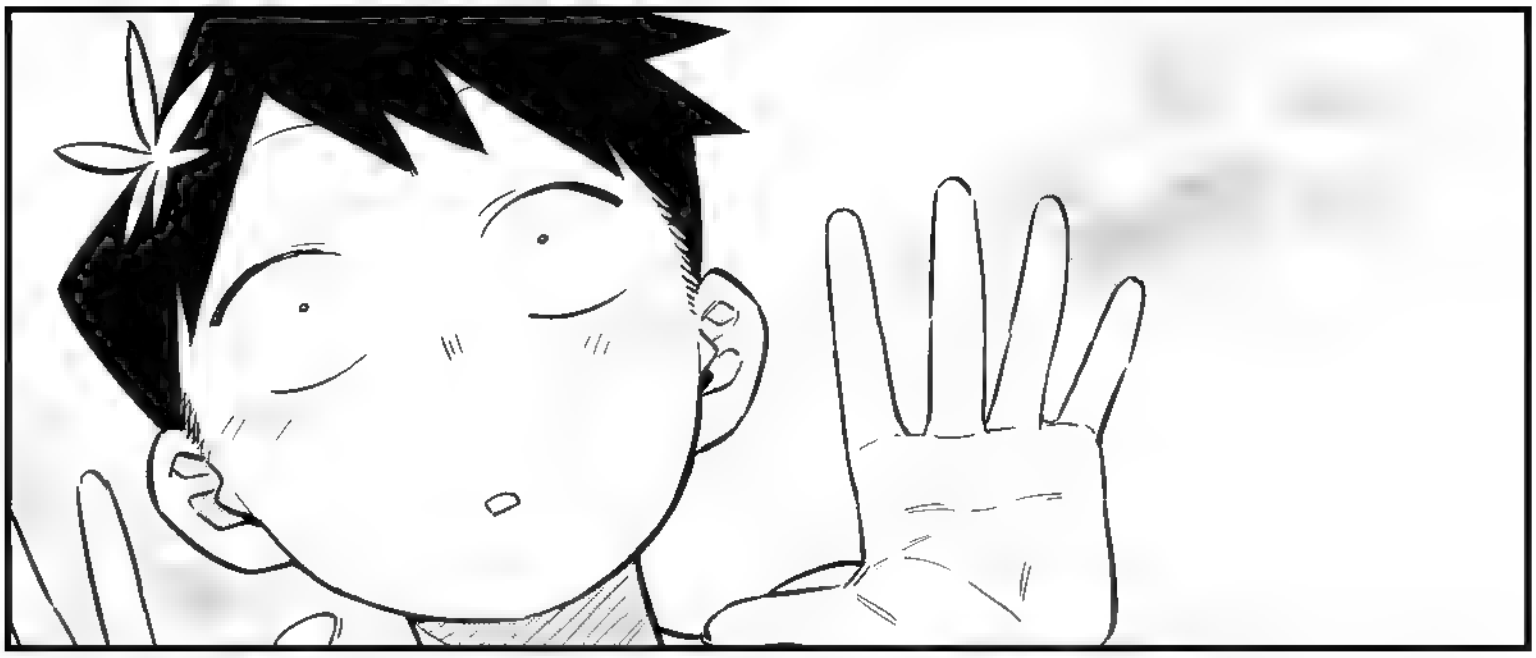
...

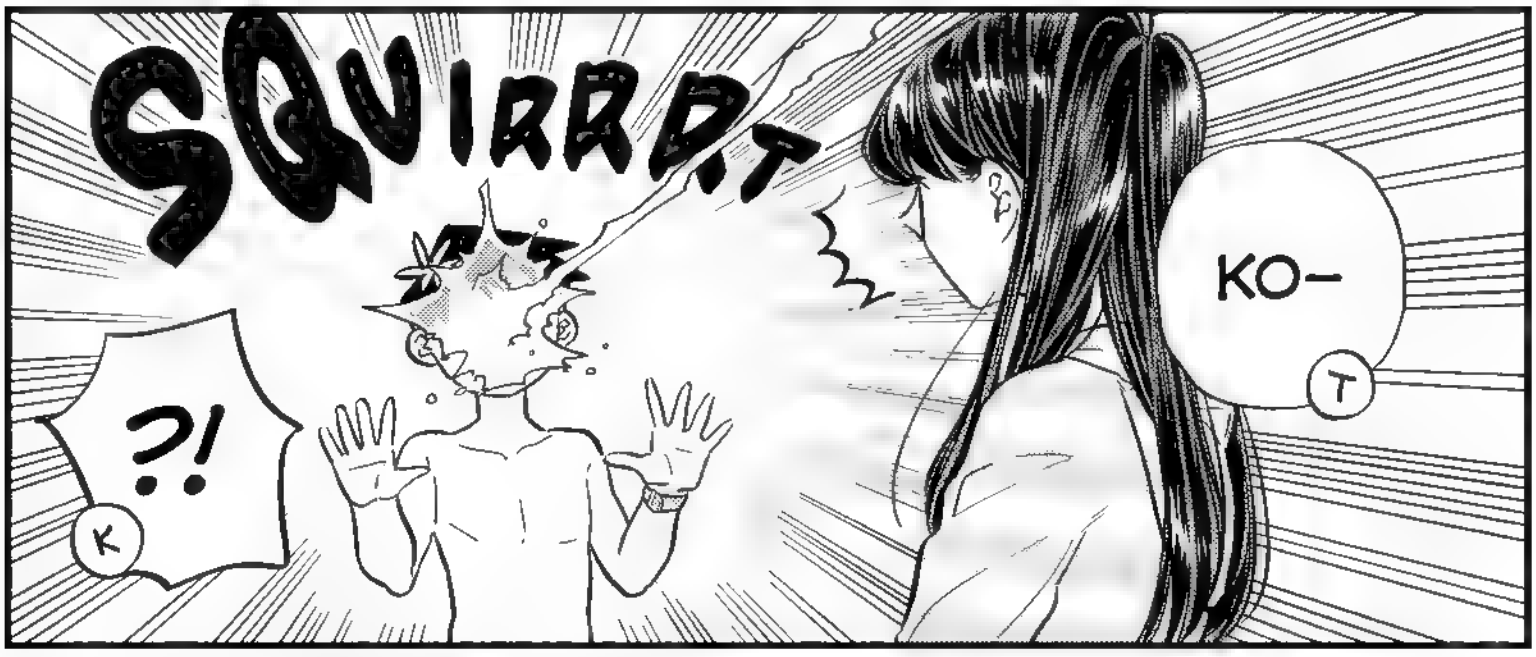
Trying to stand up

UMF UMF

...

LET ME HELP YOU.
SWIP
SPLOSH
Suddenly noticed they were holding hands
ACK
ACK
NO, UM, NEVER MIND!
WAP
WOW ...
YOUR HAND IS SO SOFT AND–



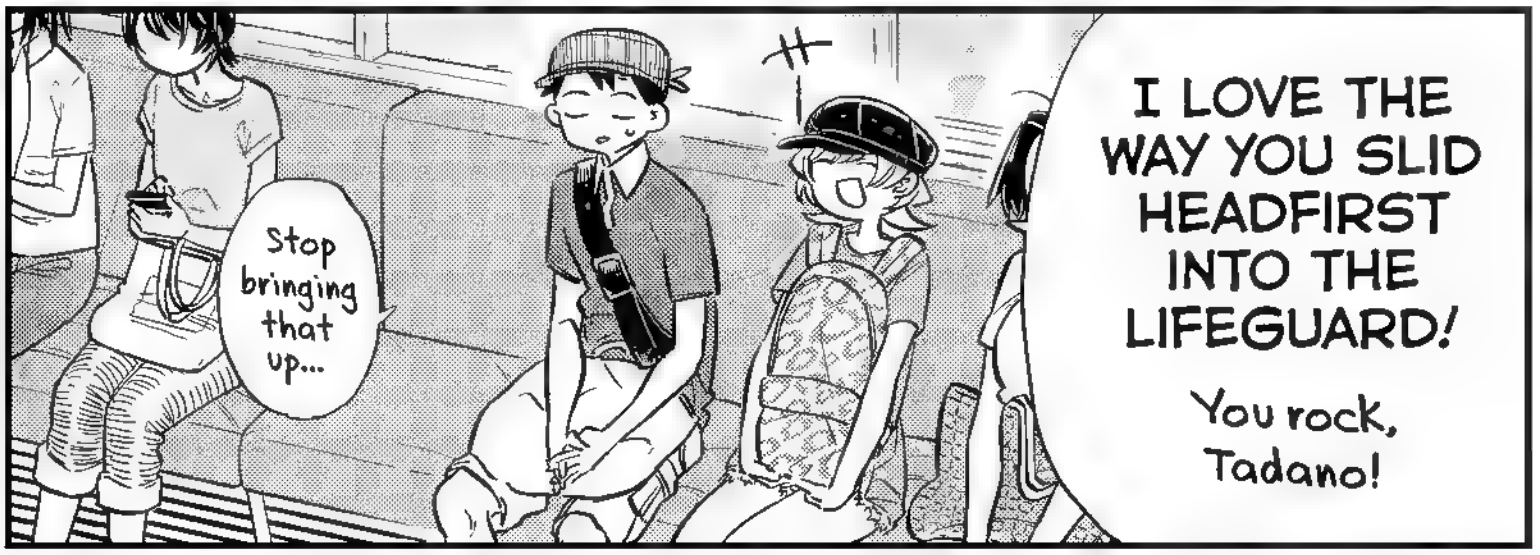

SQUIRRT
?!
KO–
T
K

AH HA HA! I BOUGHT SQUIRT GUNS SO WE CAN HORSE AROUND *OUTSIDE* THE POOL!
?!
?!

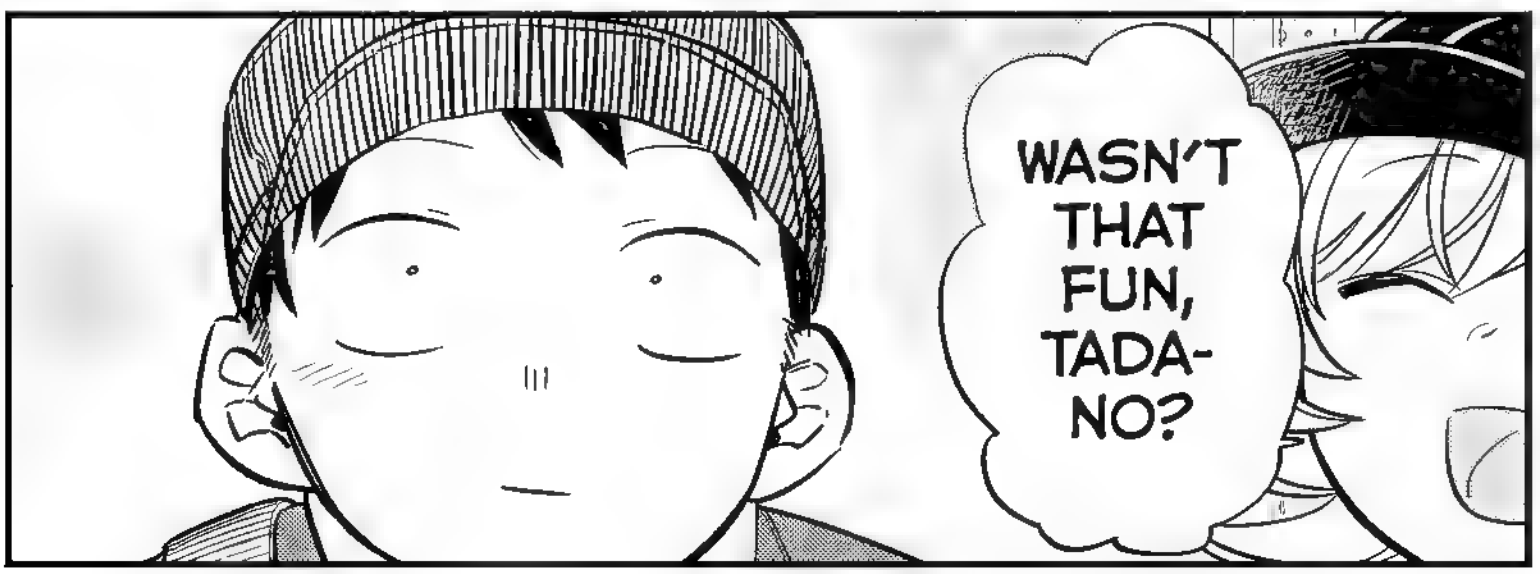
?!
SQUIRT
SQUIRT
SQUIRT
SQUIRT
HEY, YOU TWO! ENJOYIN' YOUR YOUTH?

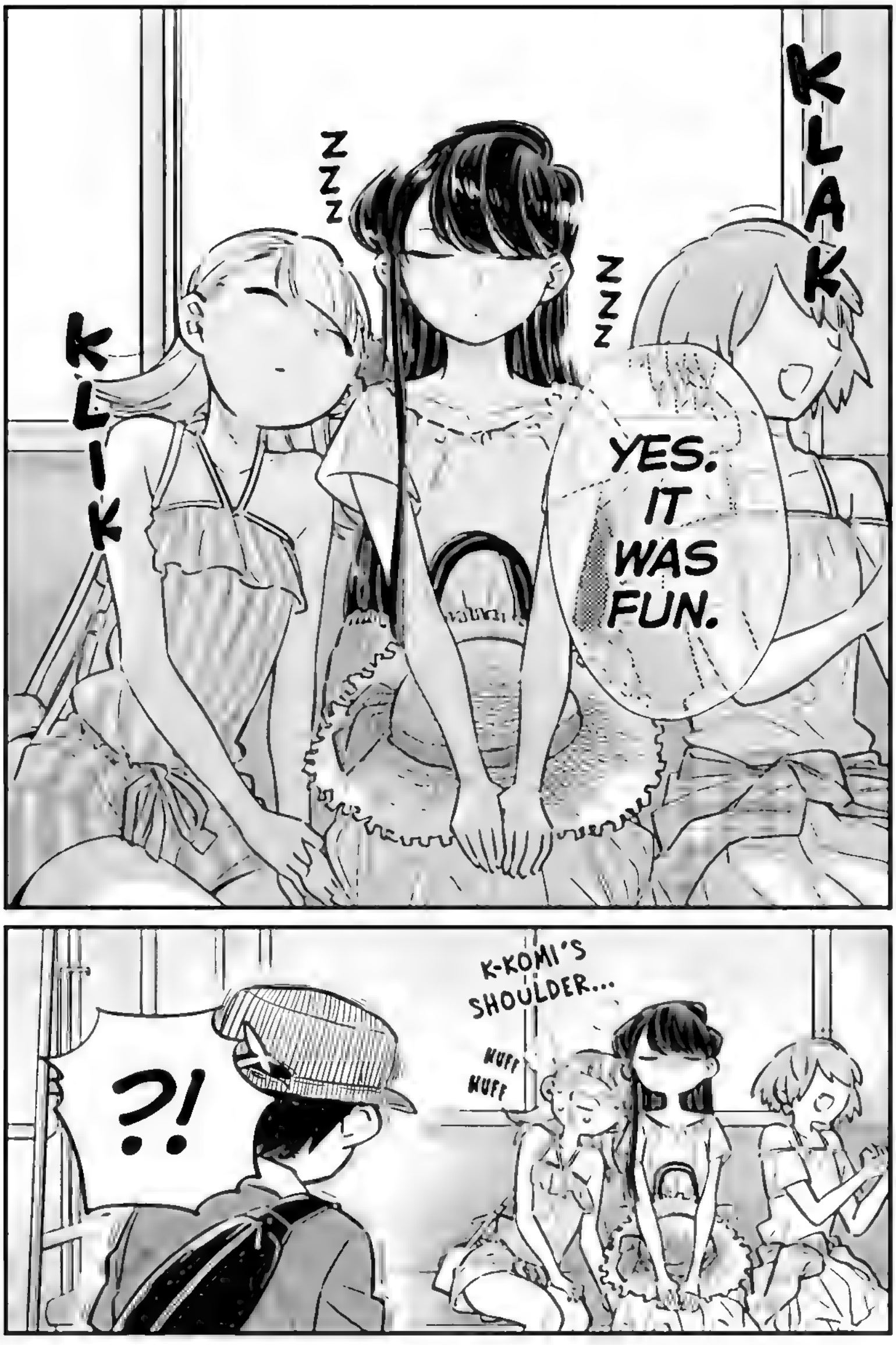
OOH! I WANNA PLAY TOO!
NO, WAI– GURGLE!
Squirt gun fight!
WAAAH
AH HA HA HA
Sammy

KLIK
KLAK


Stop bringing that up...
I LOVE THE WAY YOU SLID HEADFIRST INTO THE LIFEGUARD!
You rock, Tadano!

!
Agari, did your top fall off?


WASN'T THAT FUN, TADA-NO?

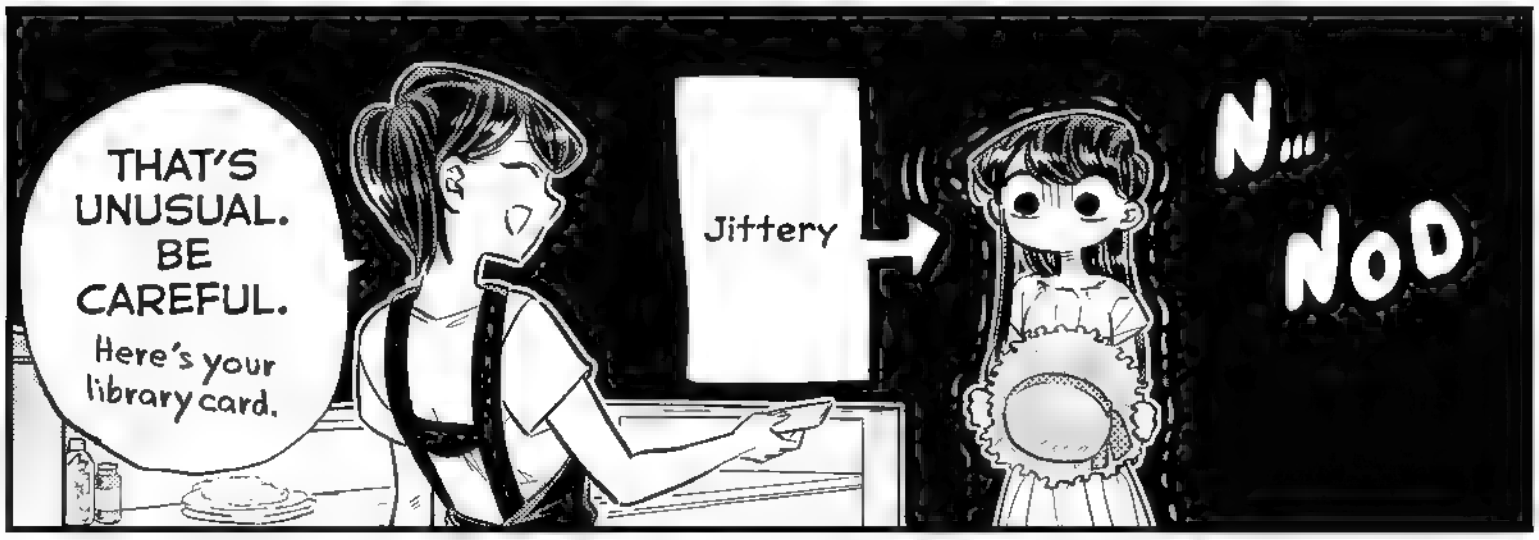


Communication 40 — The End

HM? YOU'RE GOING TO THE LIBRARY?
SKREe
SKREe
CHIRR
CHIRR

NOD

...
ALONE?


THAT'S UNUSUAL. BE CAREFUL.
Here's your library card.
Jittery
N...
NOD

KACHAK
Cica-
da
FLINCH
CRINGE
THUD
SKITTER
Cica-
da
CHIRR
CHIRR
Cica-
da
JOLT
BZZZ
CHIRR
IS SHE
OKAY?

Communication 41: The Library

COOL AIR
AHH
VRRR

!
Found an inter-esting book

Hmm?
What a pretty girl!
A precious vision...
!!
Whoa, Nelly...
Beautiful...
STAARE

Going to check out so she can escape
SNEAK

WANDER
PEEK
PEEK
WANDER
GLOOM
Can't take another step
?

Reading to regain her serene spirit

BABMP

BABMP

JOLLT

BWAAAAH!!

WAAAH!!

FLAIL

WAAA...

Sorry about this...

Ko. you stopped crying.

...

Trying to make a kind face

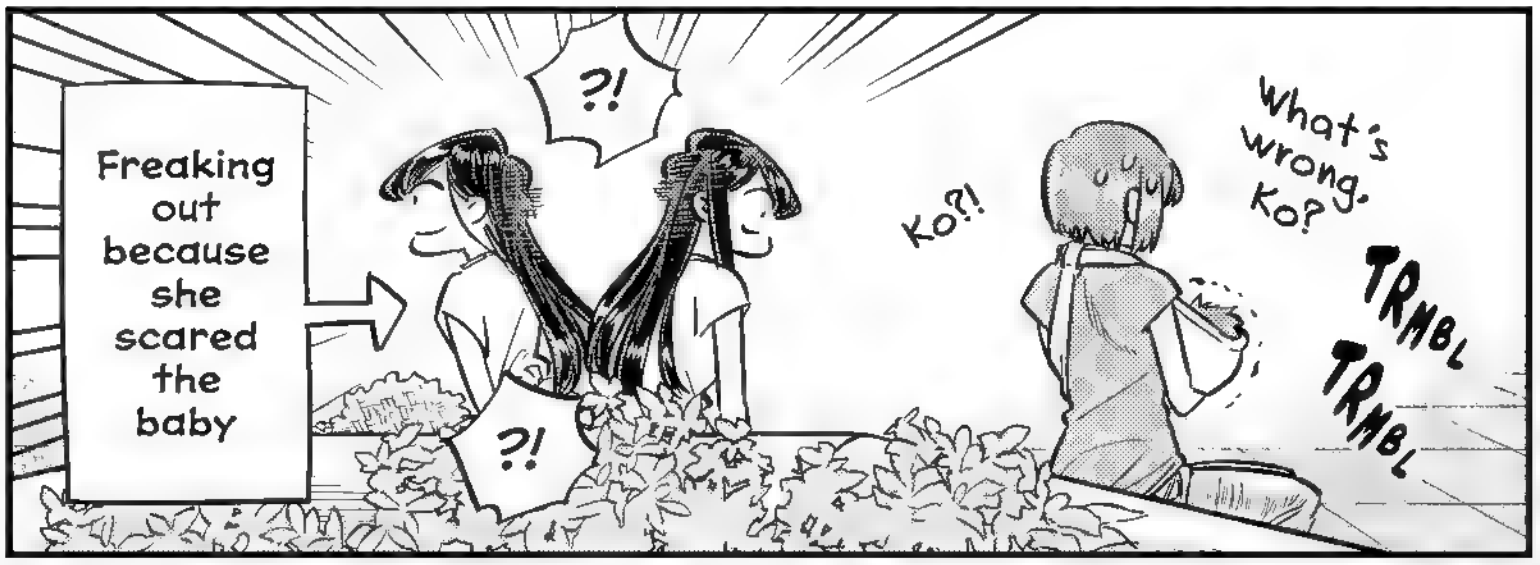
Ko?

KO?!

...!

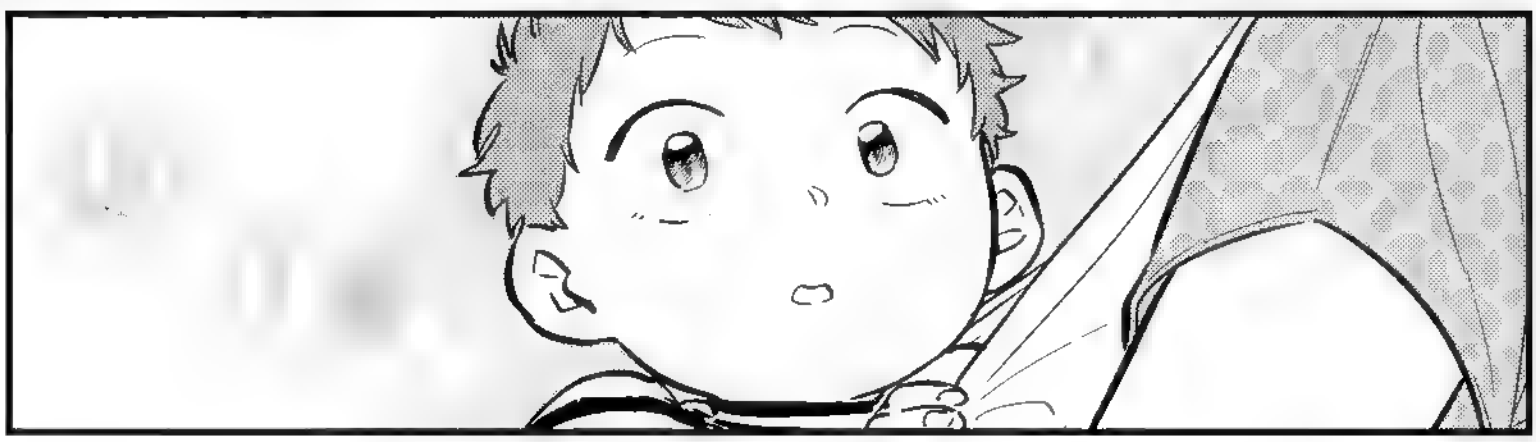
...!

TRMBLTRMBLTRMBLTRMBLTRMBL

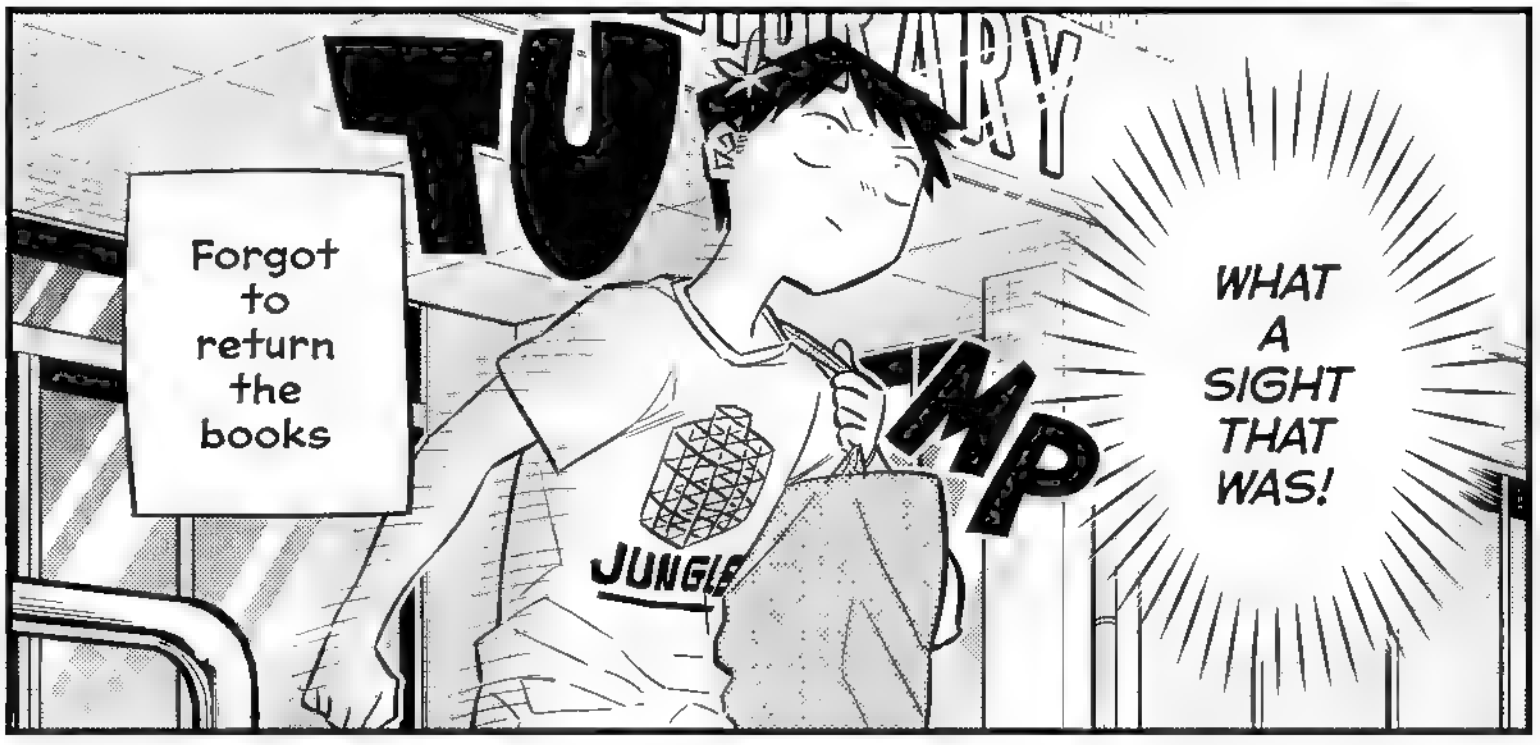

Freaking out because she scared the baby
?!
?!
Ko?!
What's wrong, Ko?
TRMBL
TRMBL

Are you sick?!

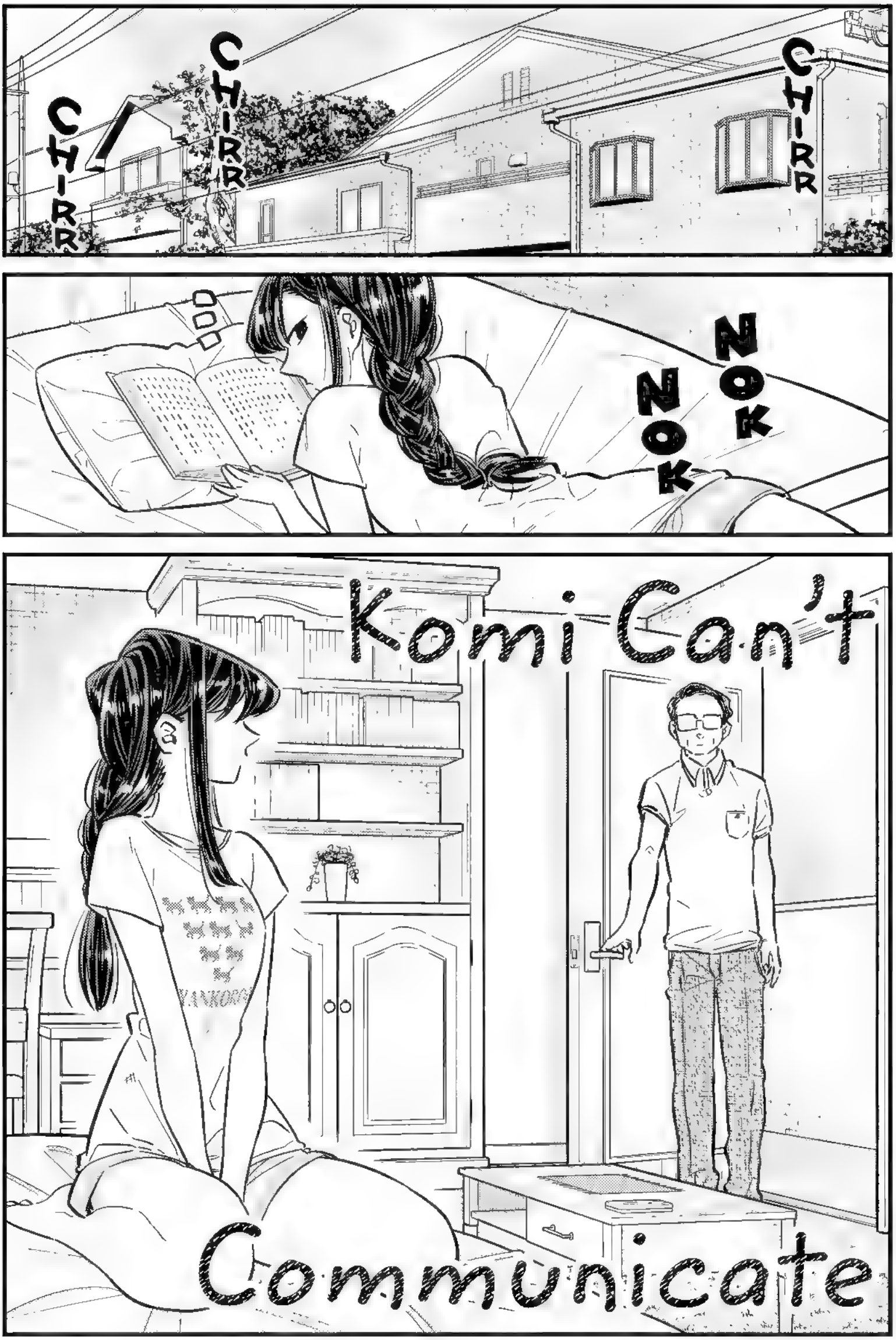
SMILE



PHEW
Why were you crying?



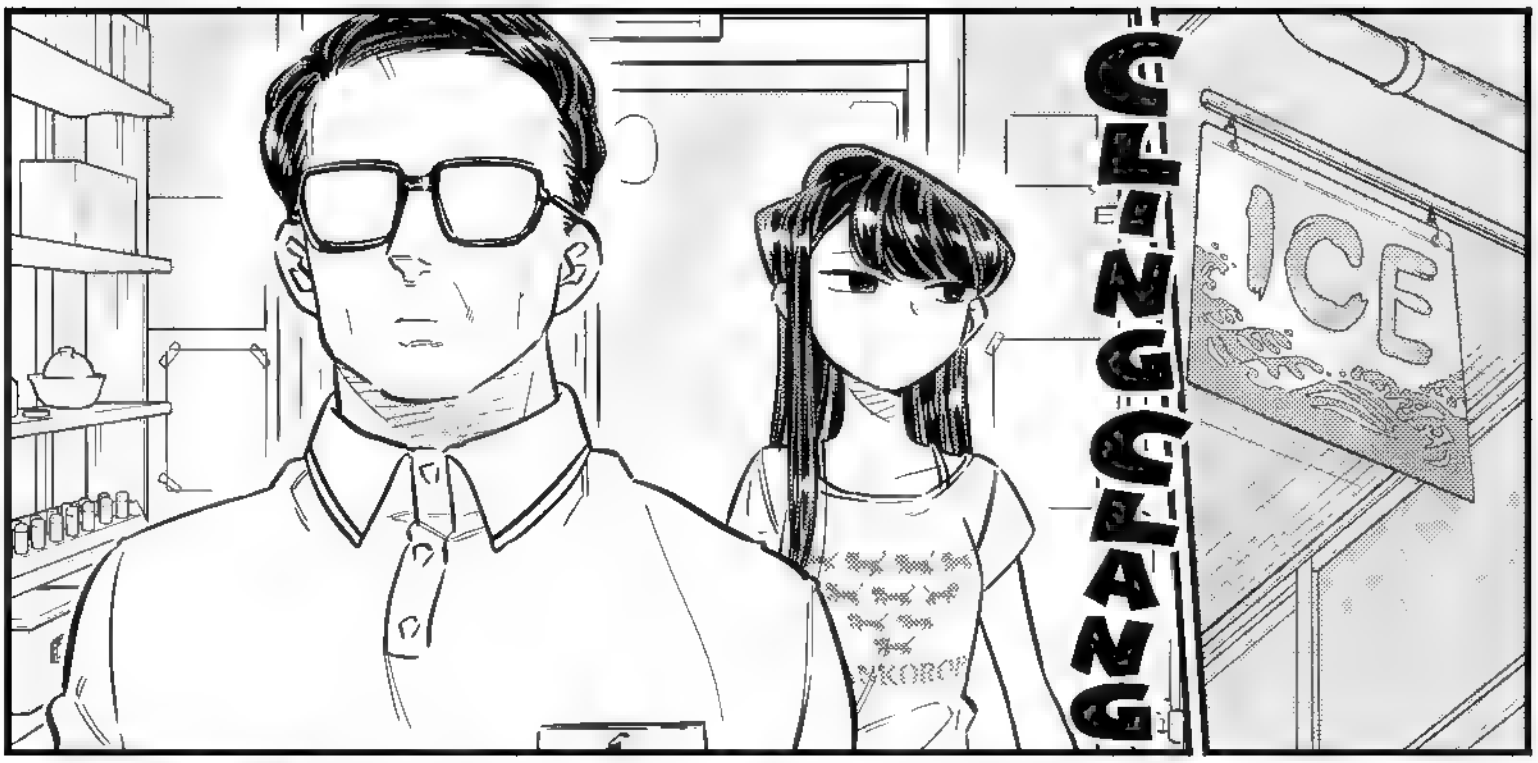
Communication 41 — The End



Communication 42: Shaved Ice

...
Daughter
Father
...
...
...

TUMP
TUMP
AS USUAL, I HAVE NO IDEA HOW YOU TWO COMMU-NICATE.
Mom
They decided to go get shaved ice.
FUMP


ICE
CLANG
How nice...
And a dapper man...
MURMUR
Such a pretty girl...
MURMUR
...
...
...
How do they know each other?
Is it a serious conversation?
MURMUR
...
MURMUR
Why don't they talk? Are they fighting?

Green tea and sweet bean flavor

Comin' up!

Straw-berry cream flavor

Wants to ask about how school is going

Looking forward to her shaved ice

That's why he invited her.

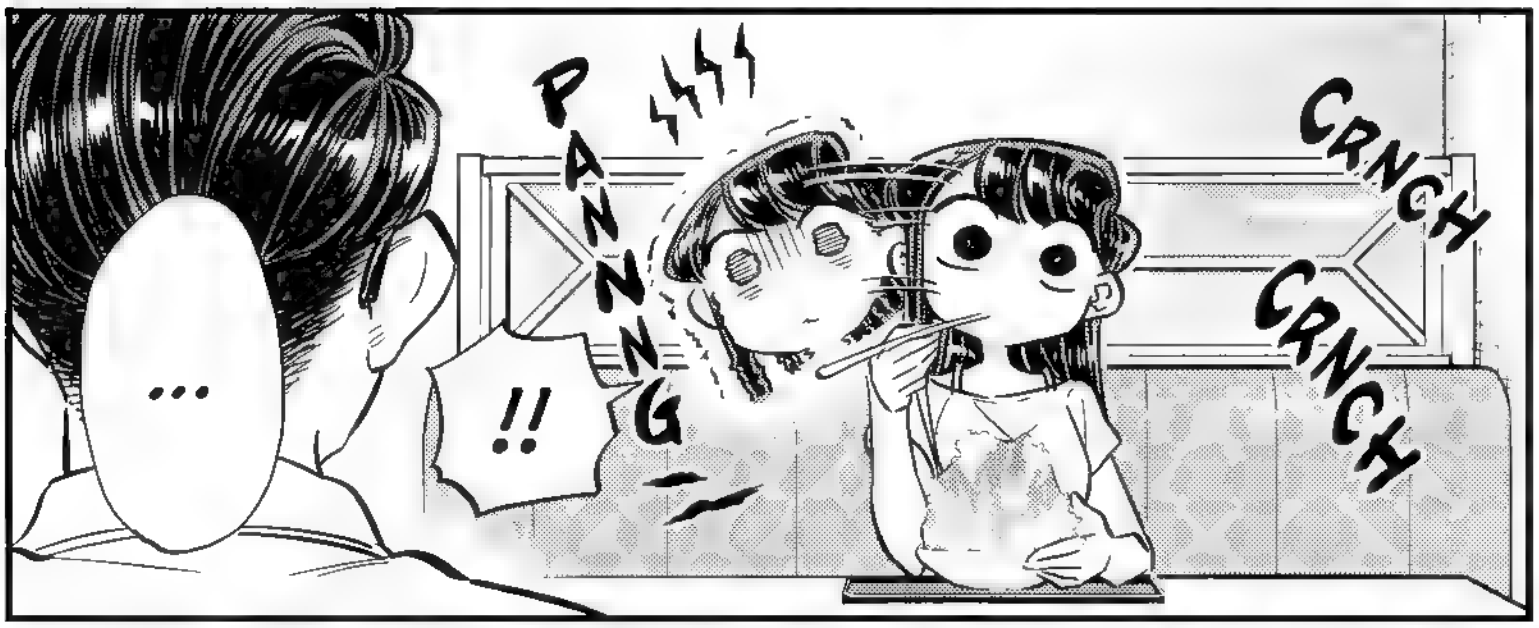
Won-dering if it's coming soon

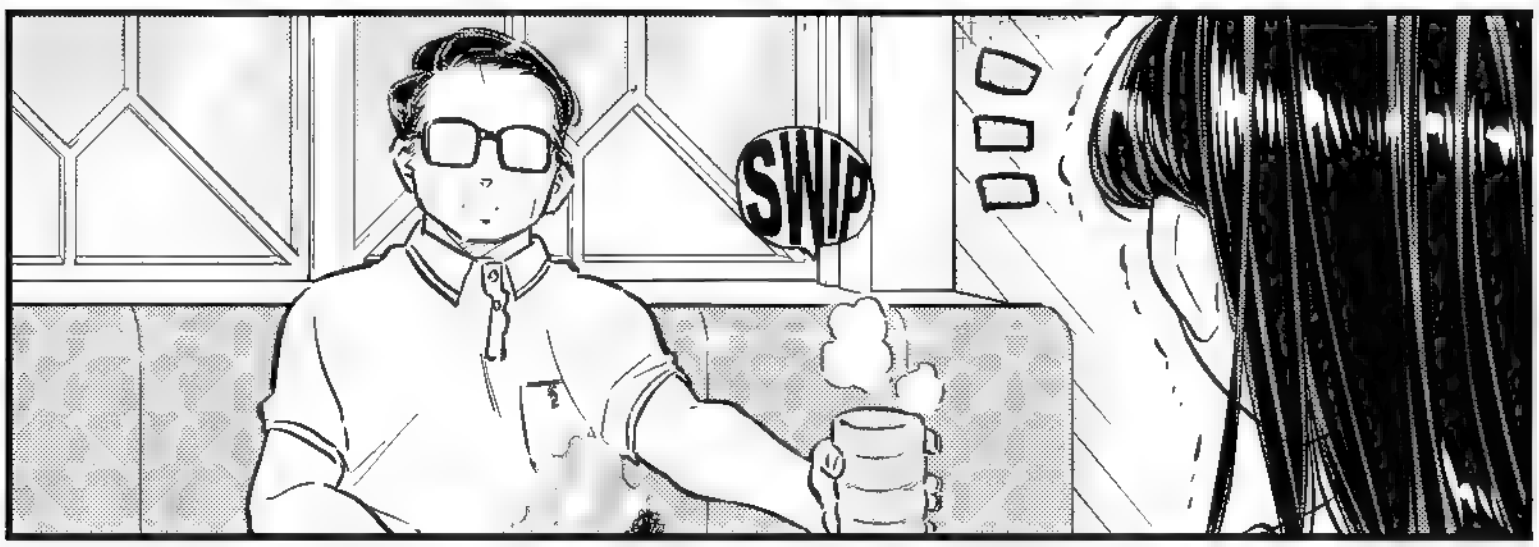
GLOOOM

But he can't ask!

Here you go!

It came!


...
!!
PANNNG
CRNCH
CRNCH


SWIP
...

SCHOOL, I MEAN.
...
HOW IS IT?
SIP
...

...
Finally said it!

?!

GLOOOM

GLOOOM

...

?!

?!

CHAK

...

PERK

CRUNCH
MUNCH
CRUNCH
MUNCH

Just kidding

Communication 42 — The End

RRRING RRRING

ISN'T SHE GOING TO ANSWER?

Mom

RRRING RRRING

...

Regaining control of her breathing

RRRING RRRING

FWOOO

H...

...

...

BIP

Communication 43: Part-Time Job

BE AM

SORRY TO ASK ON SUCH LATE NOTICE!

I ASKED SOMEONE ELSE FIRST, BUT THEY HAD TO CANCEL!

I ASKED A BUNCH OF PEOPLE, BUT EVERYONE WAS BUSY!

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

TRMBL

TRMBL

TRMBL

TRMBL

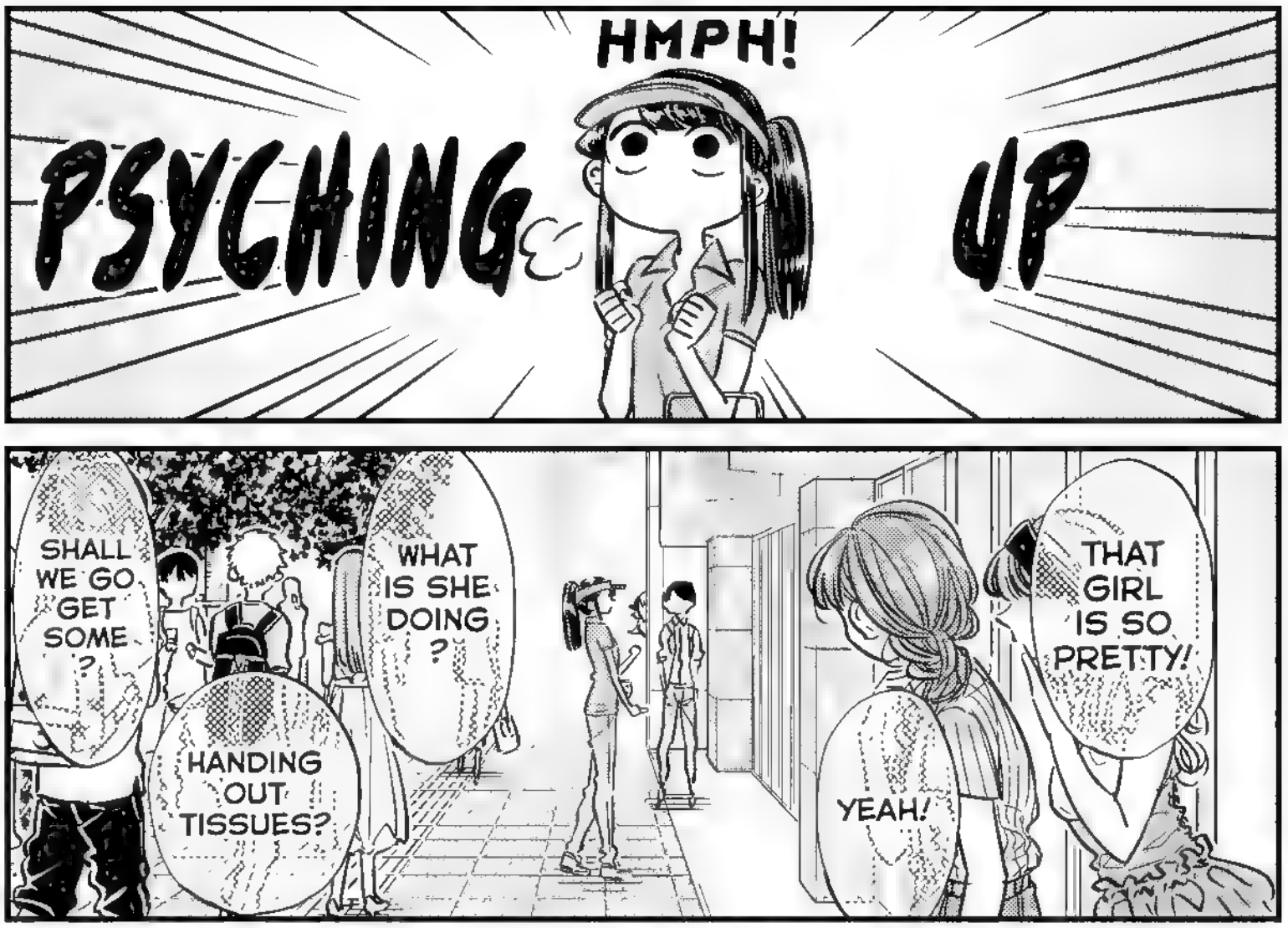
TRMBL

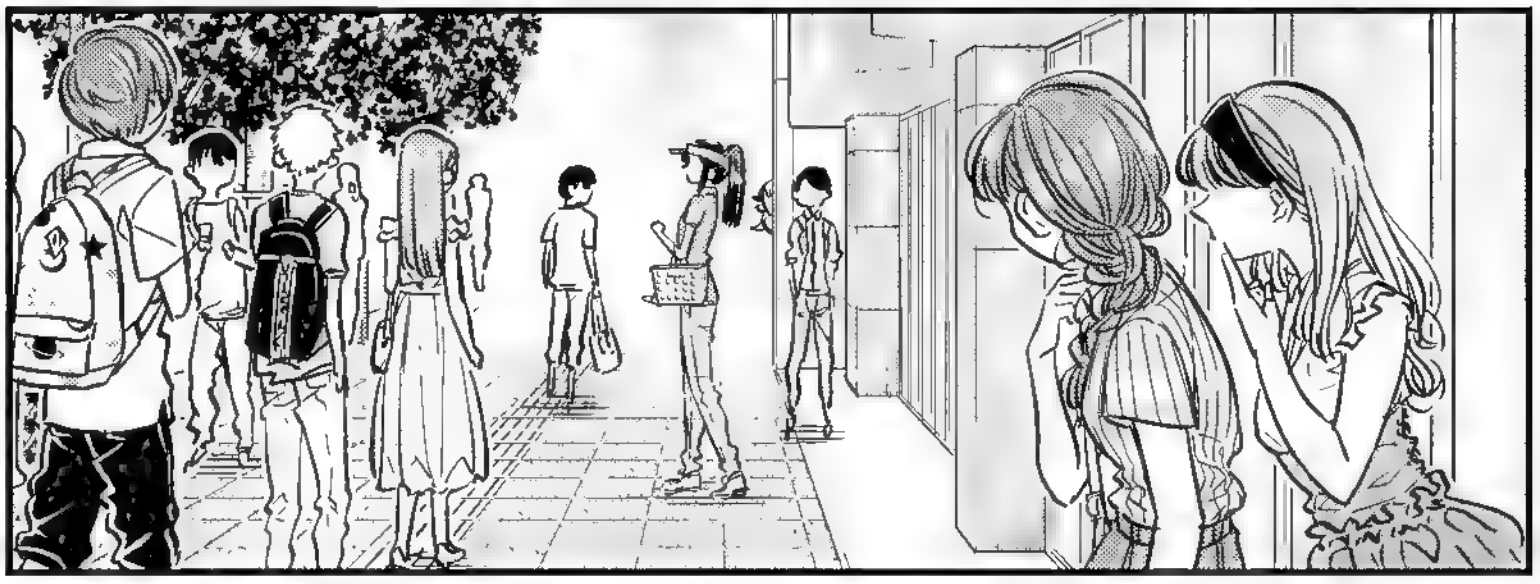
TRMBL

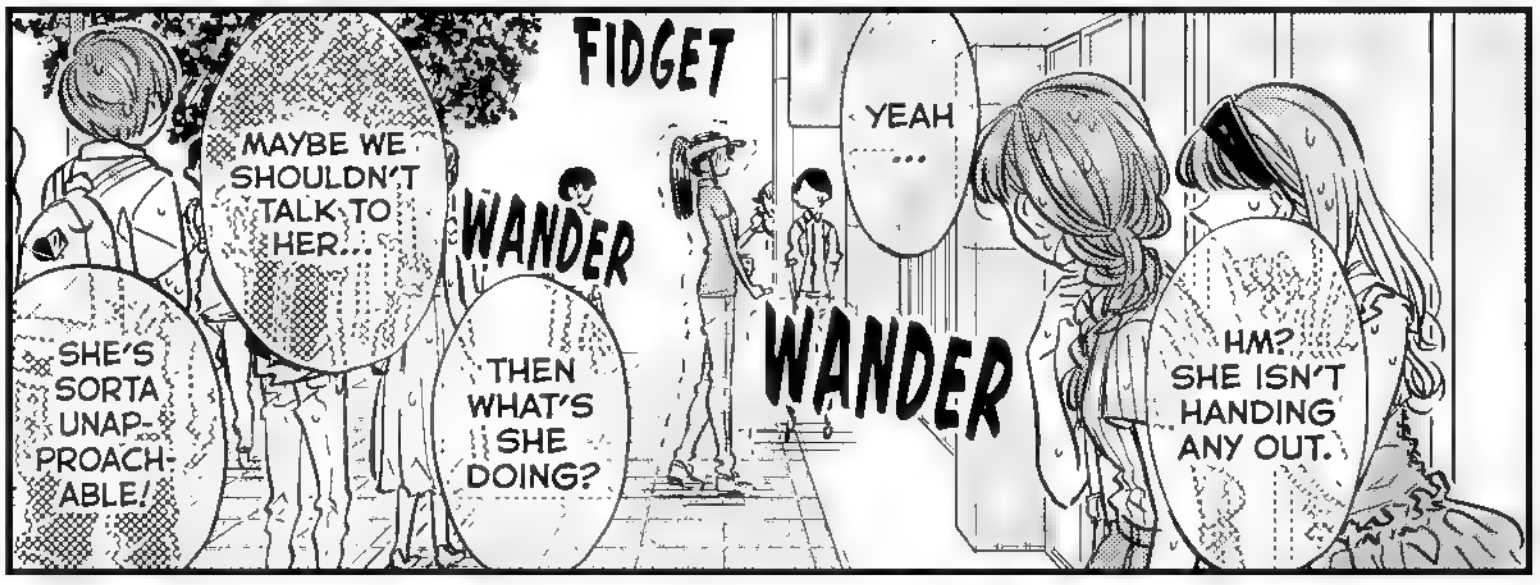
Can't refuse

LET'S GET THIS JOB STARTED! *WE GOTTA HAND OUT POCKET TISSUES!*

?!
POCKETI 1000 UNITS
POCKETI 1000 UNITS
POCKETI
UGH
GRIN
WE HAVE TO HAND OUT 5,000 PACK-AGES TODAY ...
... SO I APPRE-CIATE THE HELP.
CHIRR
I'LL BE HANDING THEM OUT OVER THERE!
CHIRR
!
CHIRR
JUST HOLD THEM OUT. YOU'LL BE FINE, KOMI!
GRIN
THANKS, DUDE!
GRIN
HERE YOU GO, MA'AM!
...
SWISWOP
HERE YOU GO!
SWISWOP


HMPH!
PSYCHING
UP
SHALL WE GO GET SOME?
WHAT IS SHE DOING?
HANDING OUT TISSUES?
YEAH!
THAT GIRL IS SO PRETTY!




FIDGET
MAYBE WE SHOULDN'T TALK TO HER...
WANDER
SHE'S SORTA UNAP-PROACH-ABLE!
THEN WHAT'S SHE DOING?
YEAH ...
WANDER
HM? SHE ISN'T HANDING ANY OUT.

ONCE MORE!

H...HMPH

PSYCHING

UP!

Still...

Still watching people walk by

Watching people walk by

Holding back tears

URMF

URMF

...!

Has an idea for next time...

!

IGNOORE

HW UP

Steeling herself to just do it!

SHOCKKKKKS

MENTAL POINTS MP

Mental damage: 128 MP (only 22 MP left)

I SHOULD'VE GOTTEN SOME!

HM? WAS SHE HANDING OUT TISSUES?

SHOCK

SHOCK

SHOCK

RIGHT NOW, I...

NO WAY, NO WAY, NO WAY...

Woman who really wants tissues: Hoshiko Teshigawara

I HAVE AN UNCON-TROLLABLE DESIRE FOR POCKET TISSUES!!

SO I'M IN DIRE NEED OF TISSUES !!

...AND I STEPPED IN GUM AND IT GOT STUCK TO MY SHOE ...

...BUT NOW OF ALL TIMES I DON'T HAVE A HANDKER-CHIEF, SO...

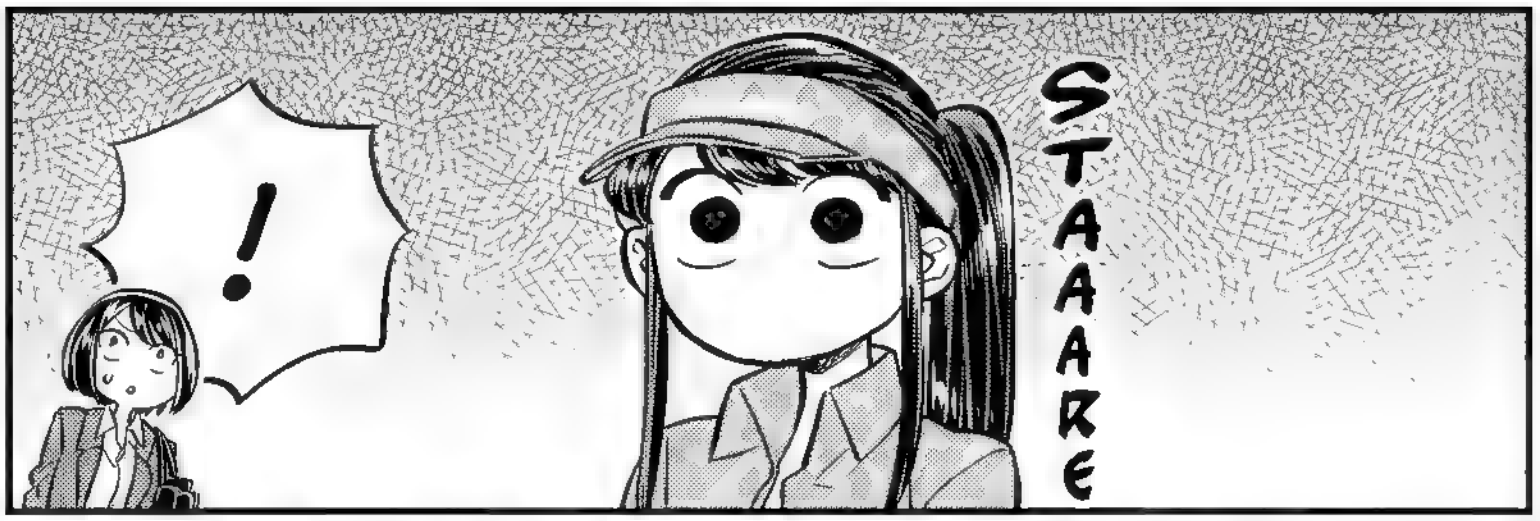
...AND I'M SWEATING LIKE CRAZY BECAUSE I HAVE TO MEET SOME-ONE...

...AND MY HANDS ARE STICKY BECAUSE I SPILLED SODA ON THEM...

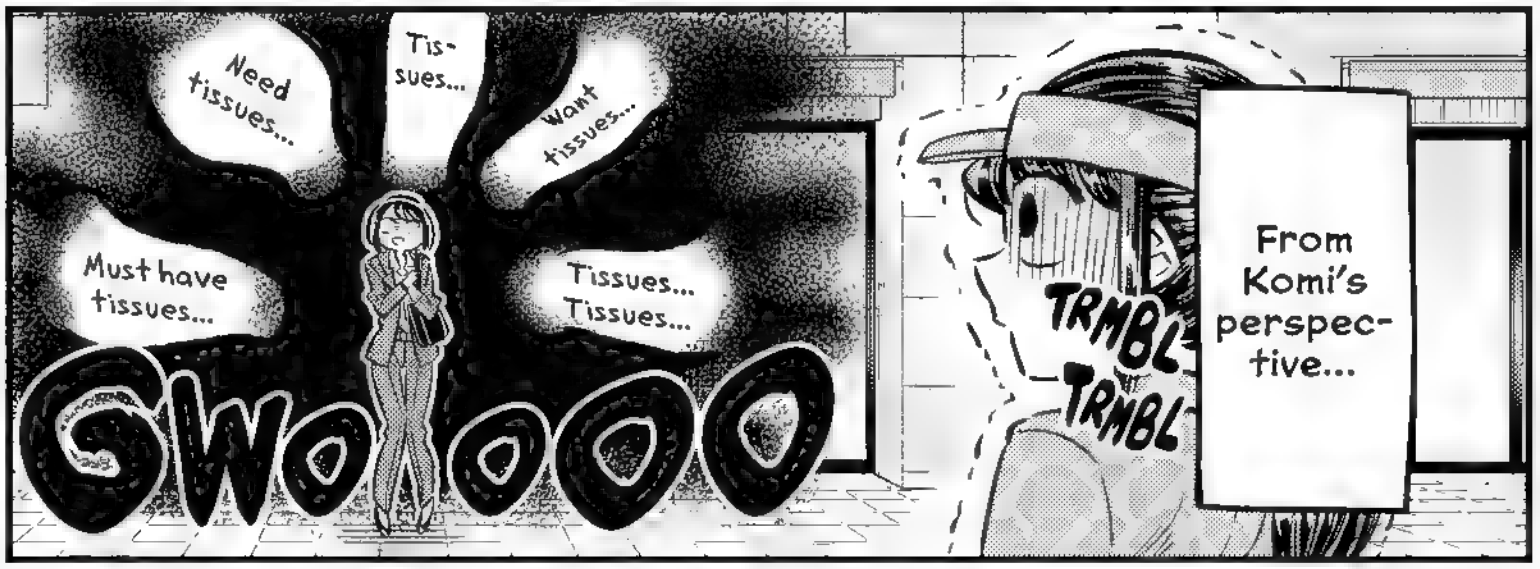
MY NOSE IS ITCHING LIKE I MIGHT SNEEZE ...

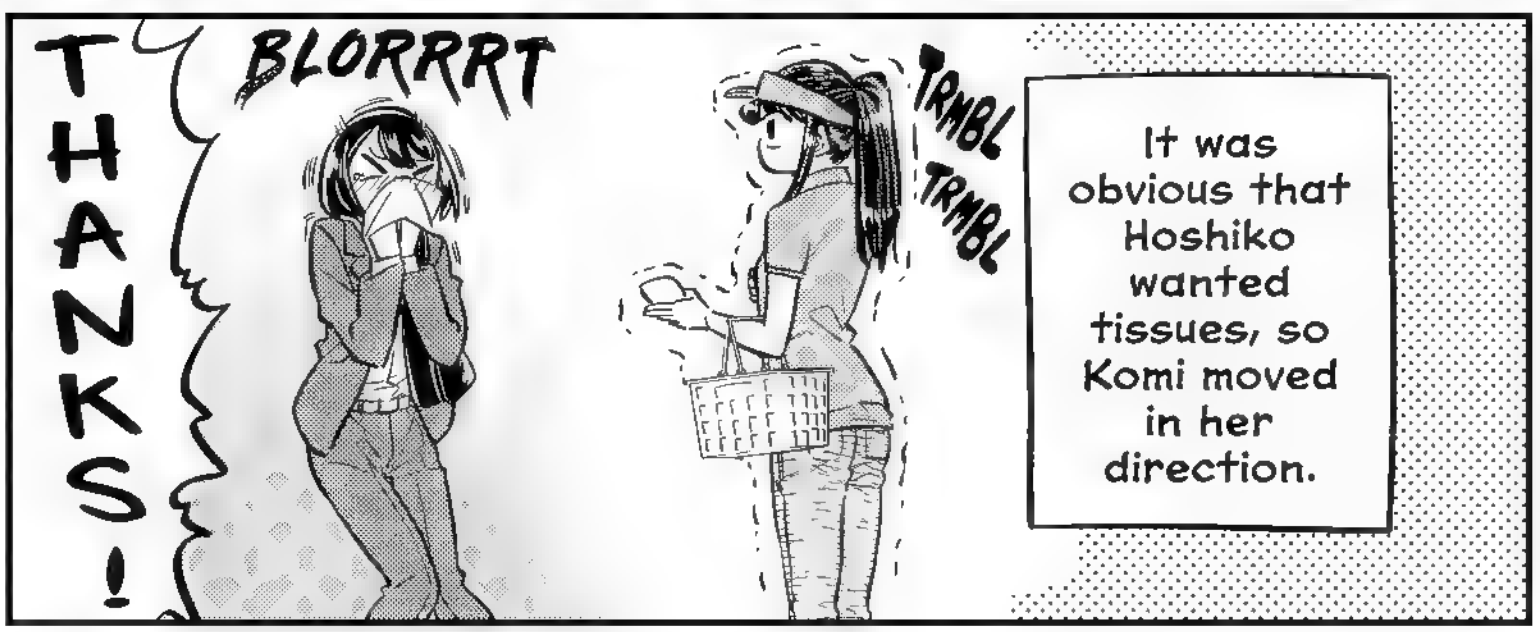
BUT IT'S WEIRD IF I MAKE A POINT OF GOING OVER, SO...

IS THAT GIRL HANDING OUT TISSUES ?!

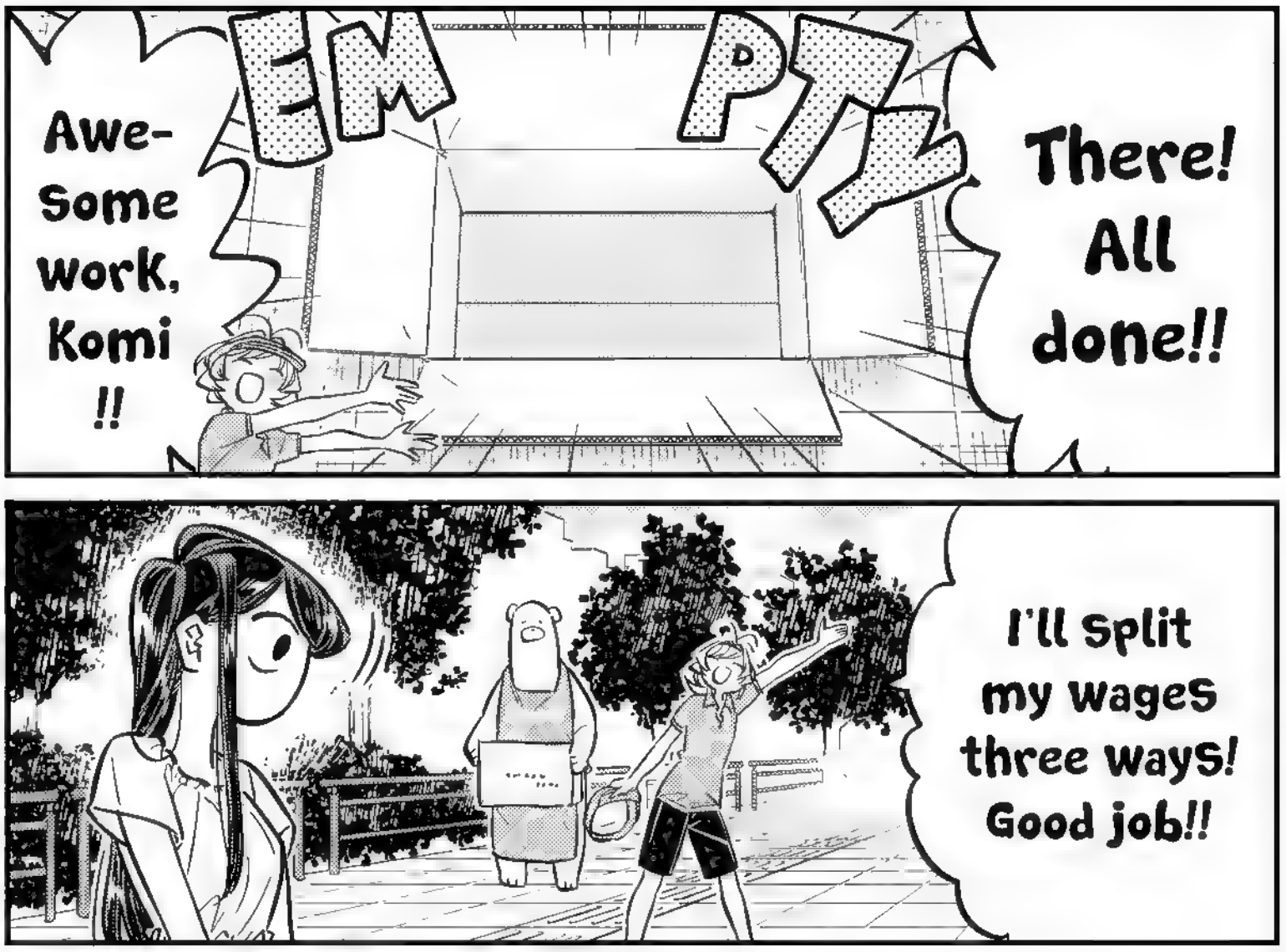

!
STAARE

FIDGET
SOME TISSUES ?!
WILL SHE GIVE ME SOME ?
STAARE
THE TISSUE GIRL IS LOOKING MY WAY!


Need tissues...
Tis-sues...
Want tissues...
Must have tissues...
Tissues... Tissues...
GWOOOO
TRMBL
TRMBL
From Komi's perspec-tive...


THANKS!
BLORRRT
TRMBL
TRMBL
It was obvious that Hoshiko wanted tissues, so Komi moved in her direction.

May I have one?
!
I KNEW IT! YOU'RE HANDING OUT TISSUES!
One Pocketi, please.
Pocketi
End of line
THRONNNG
?!
ONLY FIVE PER PERSON!
LINE UP IF YOU WANT TISSUES!
Yamai appeared out of nowhere.



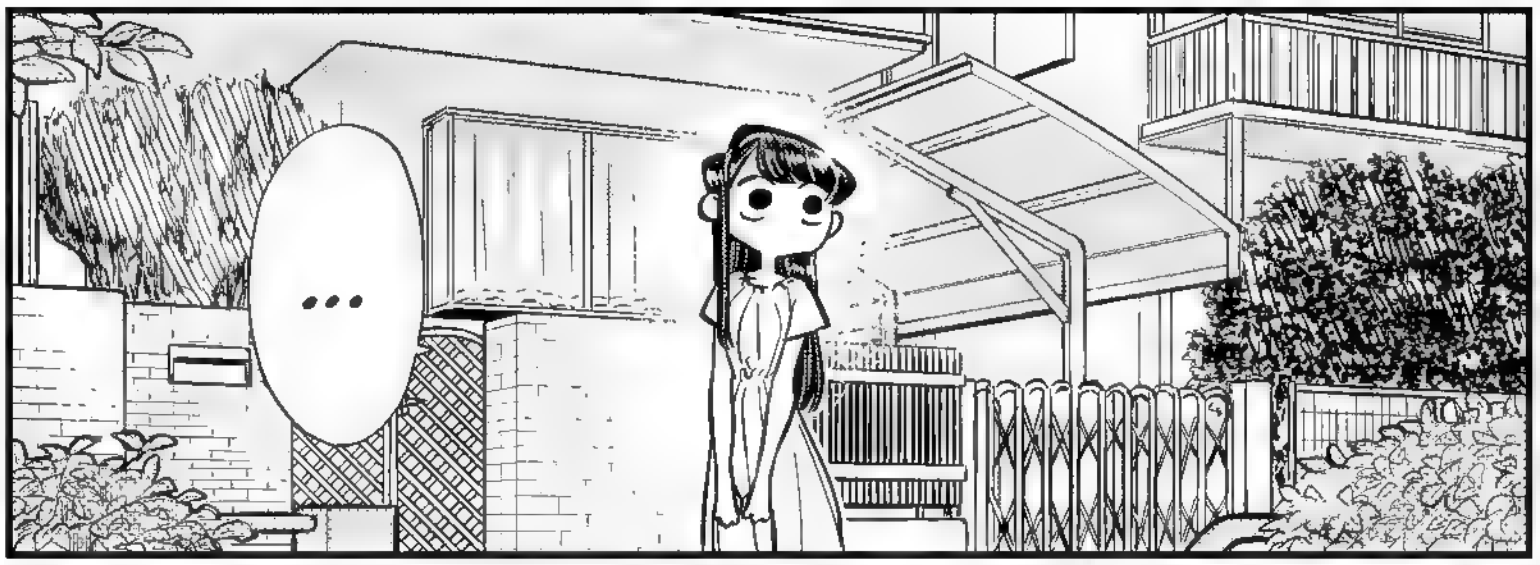
Communication 43 — The End

Komi Can't Communicate

Communication 44:
The Park

!

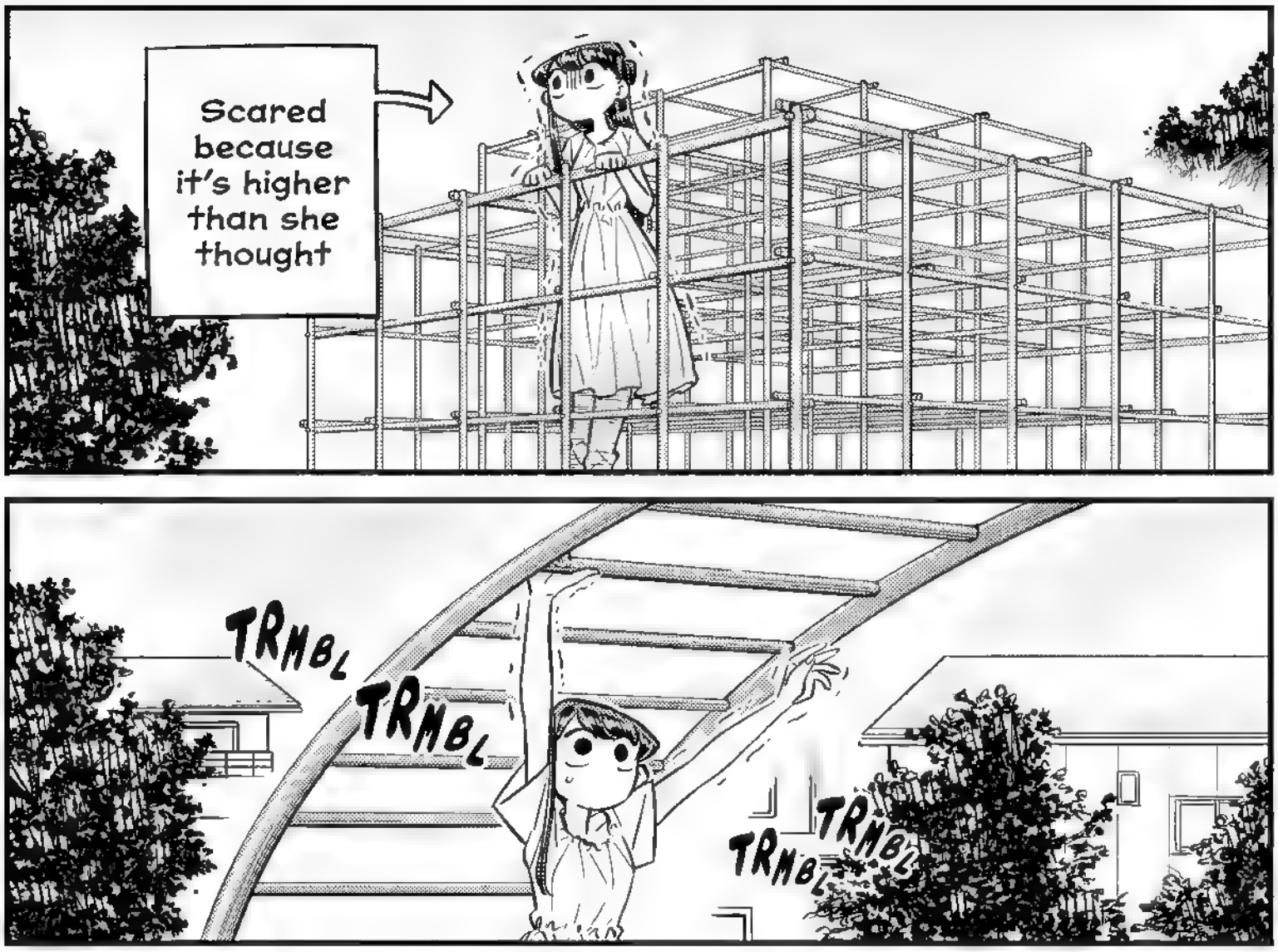
On the way home after helping Najimi

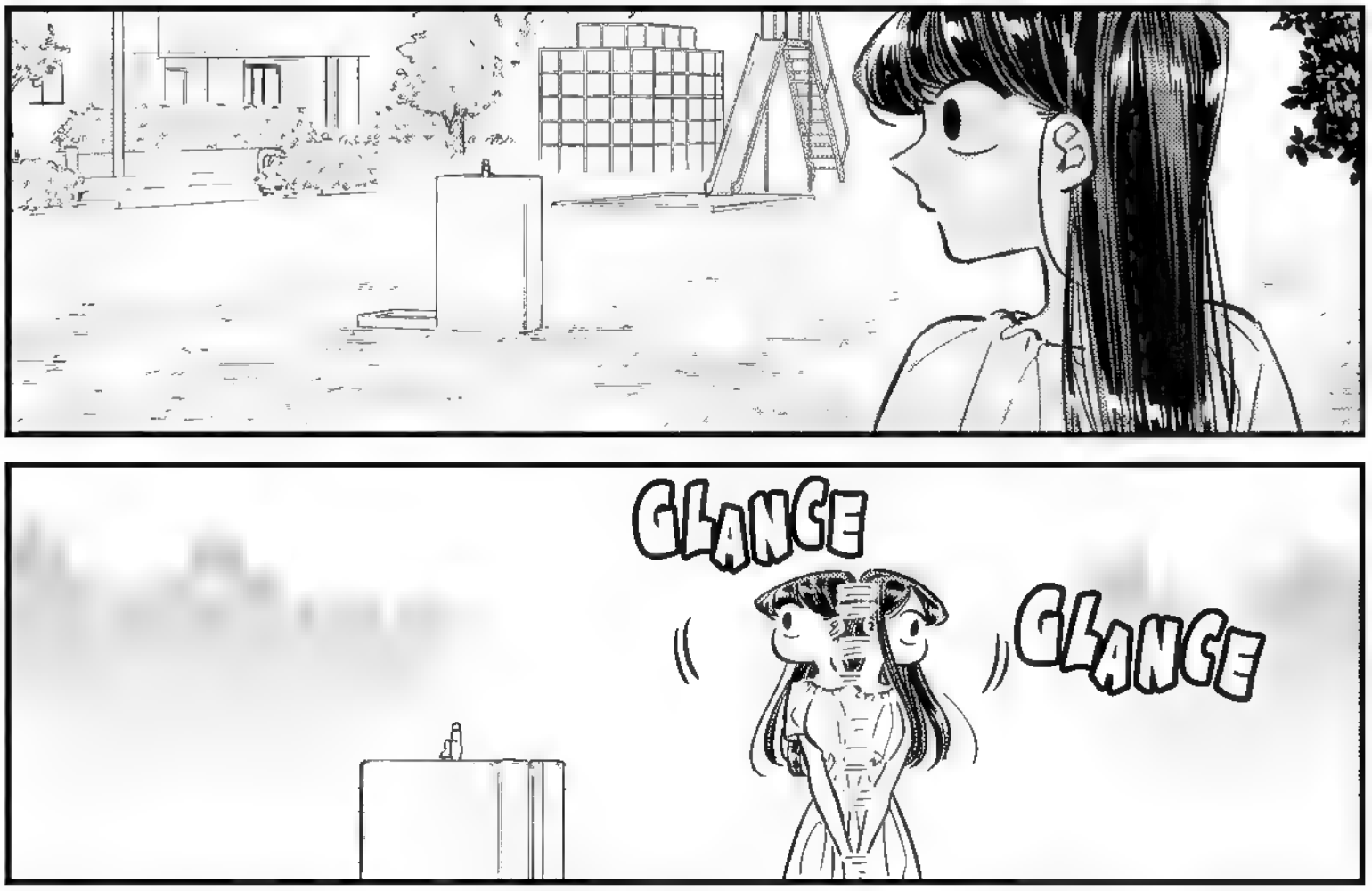

...

HUFF
HUFF
Komi decided to play in the park.

CLANGE
CLANGE
The swings
...
SKWIK
SKWEEK
SKWIK
SKWEEK
Fun!
SKWIK
SKWIK
SKWEEK
SKWIK

The slide
GLANCE
GLANCE
SWOOSH
Going to do it again


Scared because it's higher than she thought
TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL
?
SPIN SPIN SPIN
SPIN SPIN
WHEW


GLANCE
GLANCE

Checking again
GLANCE
GLANCE
SPSHHH
SKWIK

Communication 44 — The End

WENT HOME AND
FLOMPED AROUND

Komi Can't Communicate

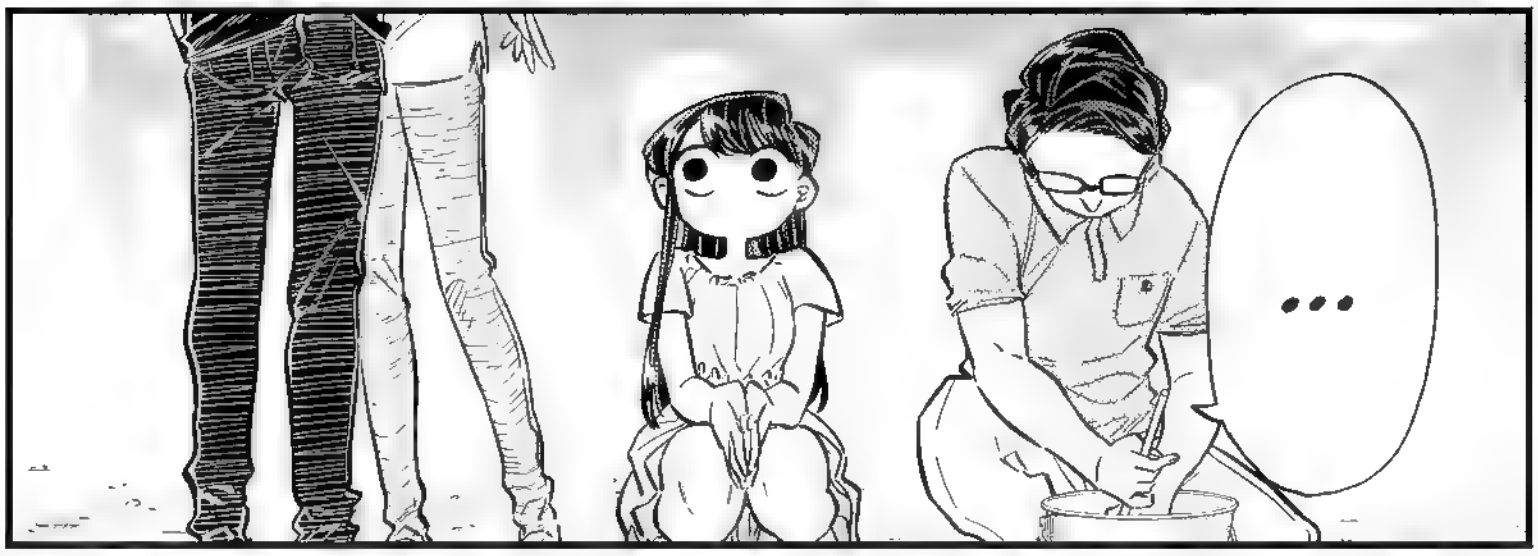
EVERYONE READY?
CHIR
CHIR
CHIRRRR
THEN LET'S ROLL!
VROOOOM

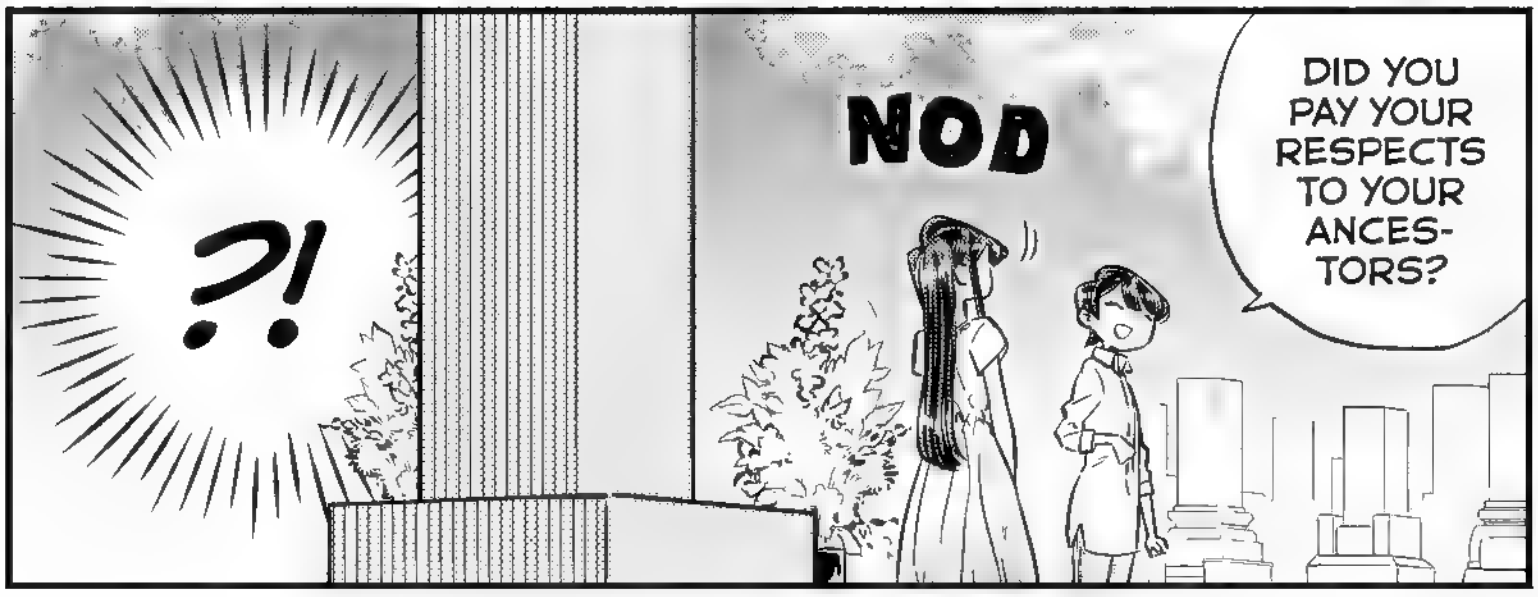
...
WAS IT THIS HOT TEN YEARS AGO?
IT'S ANOTHER SWELTERING DAY! THE FORECAST SAID WE'LL HIT 95 DEGREES!
...
...SO EVERYONE GOT WORKED UP AND...
THEN AOYAMA SAID THAT WASN'T GOOD FOR THE CHILDREN'S EDUCA-TION...
...
BUT I...
THE TAIYAKI AT THAT SHOP HAS A THIN CRUST WITH BEAN PASTE ALL THE WAY TO THE TAIL!
A normal drive for the Komi family
...
WANT A SALT CANDY? IT'S GOOD FOR BEATING THE HEAT!

Communication 45: Celebrating Obon

...

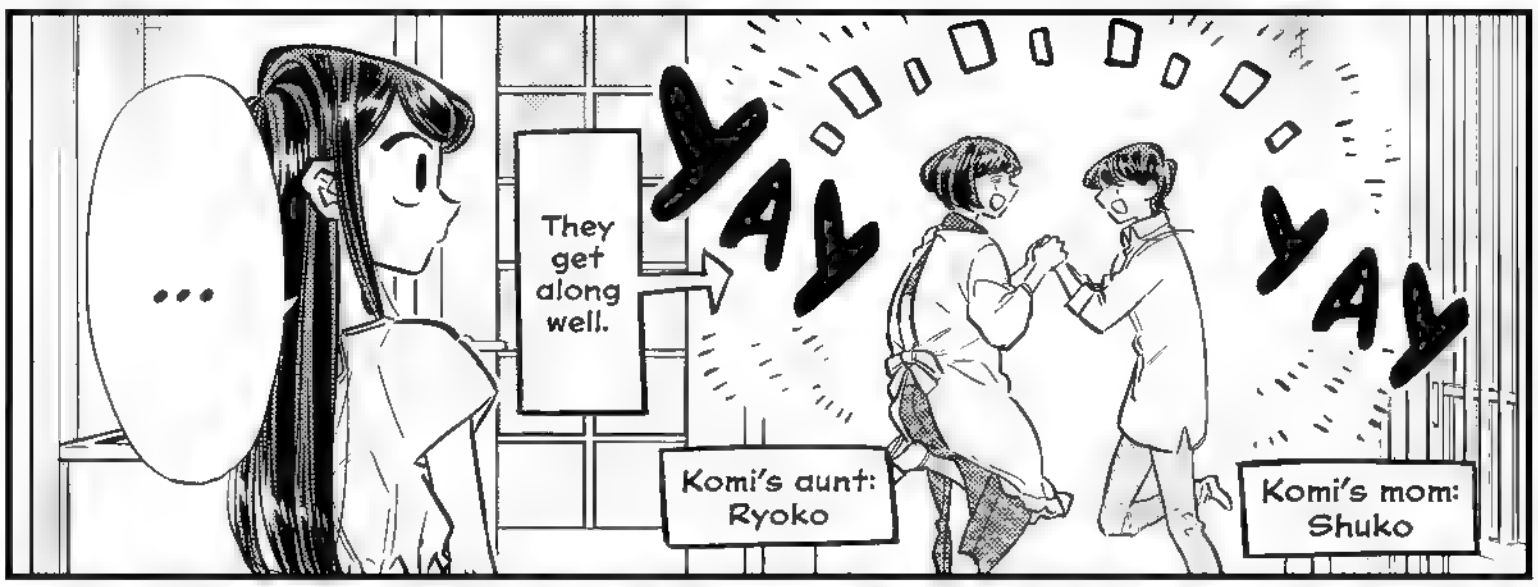
...

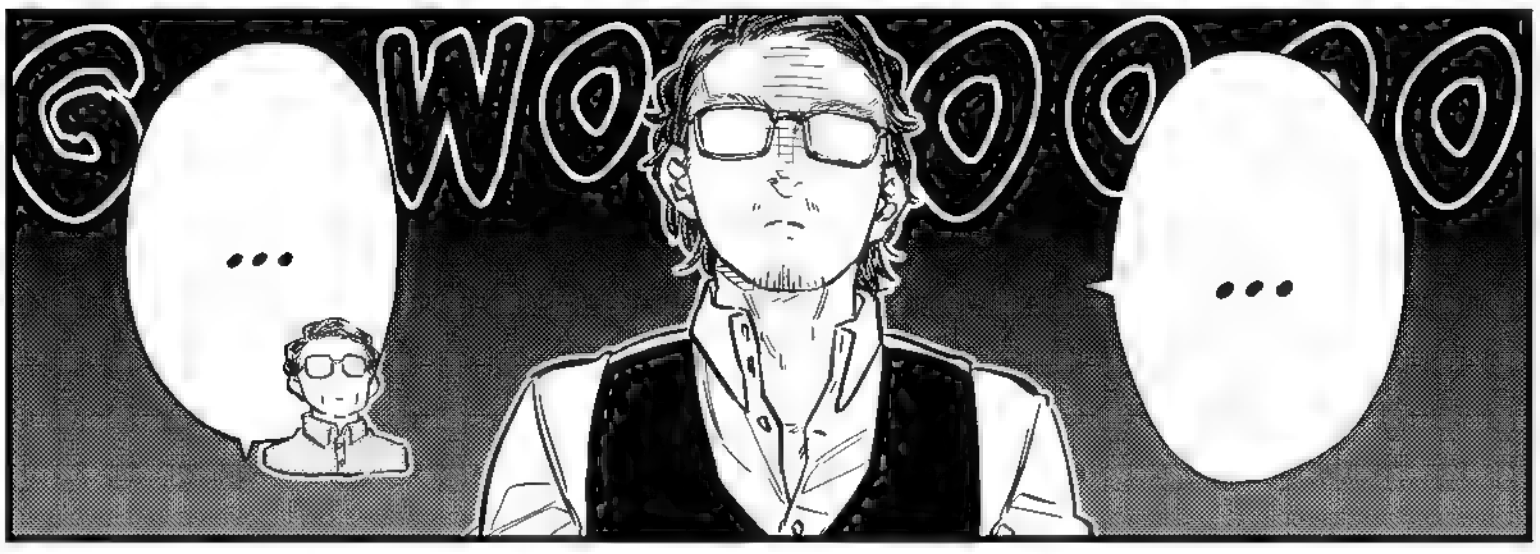

...

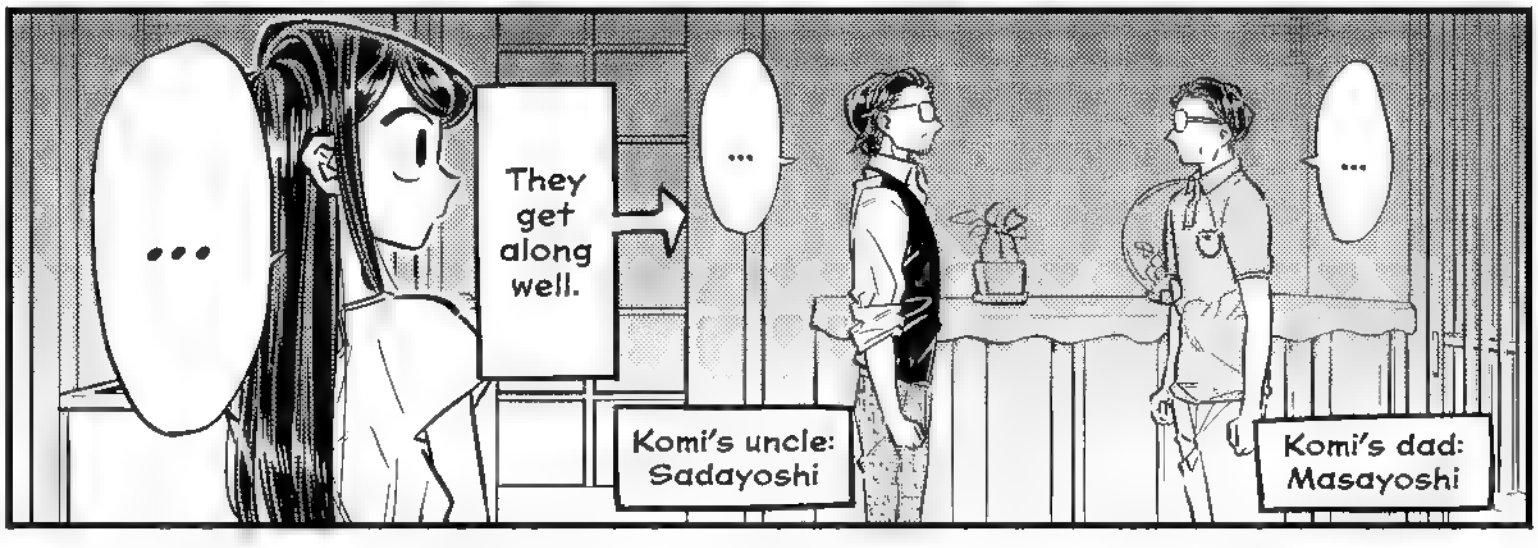

?!
NOD
DID YOU PAY YOUR RESPECTS TO YOUR ANCES-TORS?

HI!
IT'S BEEN TOO LONG!
Komi's grandmother: Yuiko Komi
COME IN.
...
?!
...
POKE
POKE
HMPH! YOU NEVER CHANGE, MOM-IN-LAW!

SPROING
SPROING
OH! RYO-KO!
SHU-KO CAME ?!


...
They get along well.
Komi's aunt: Ryoko
Komi's mom: Shuko


GWOOOO
...
...


...
They get along well.
...
...
Komi's uncle: Sadayoshi
Komi's dad: Masayoshi

WOW! SHE'S GOTTEN EVEN *CUTER!*

KYAAH

OH, IS THAT SHOKO ?!

HOW CUTE ...

Doesn't know how to respond, so she just nods

N... NOD

Komi has difficulty establishing personal space around her aunt and uncle.

Give your aunt a good cuddle!

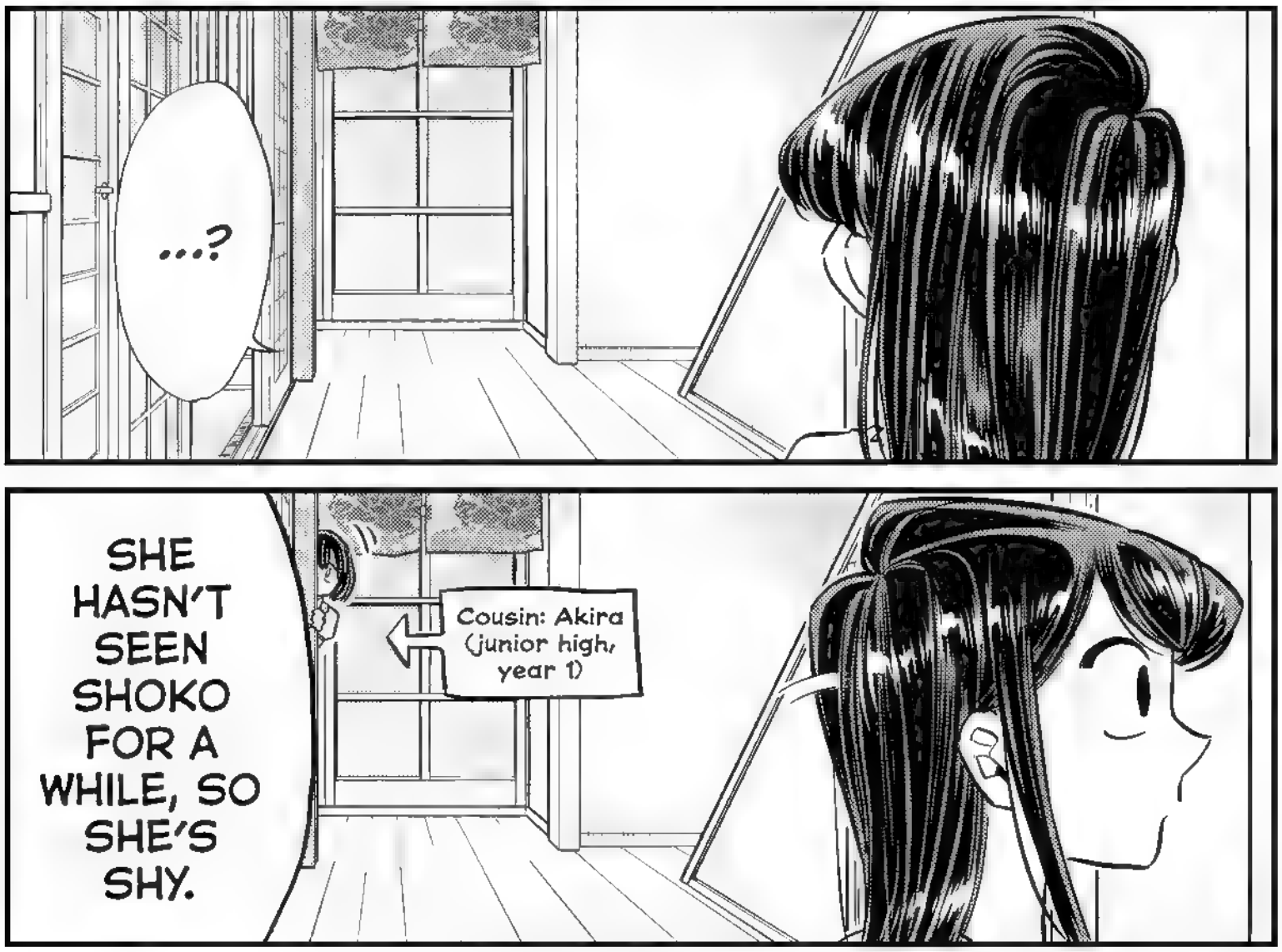
Okay? C'mon!

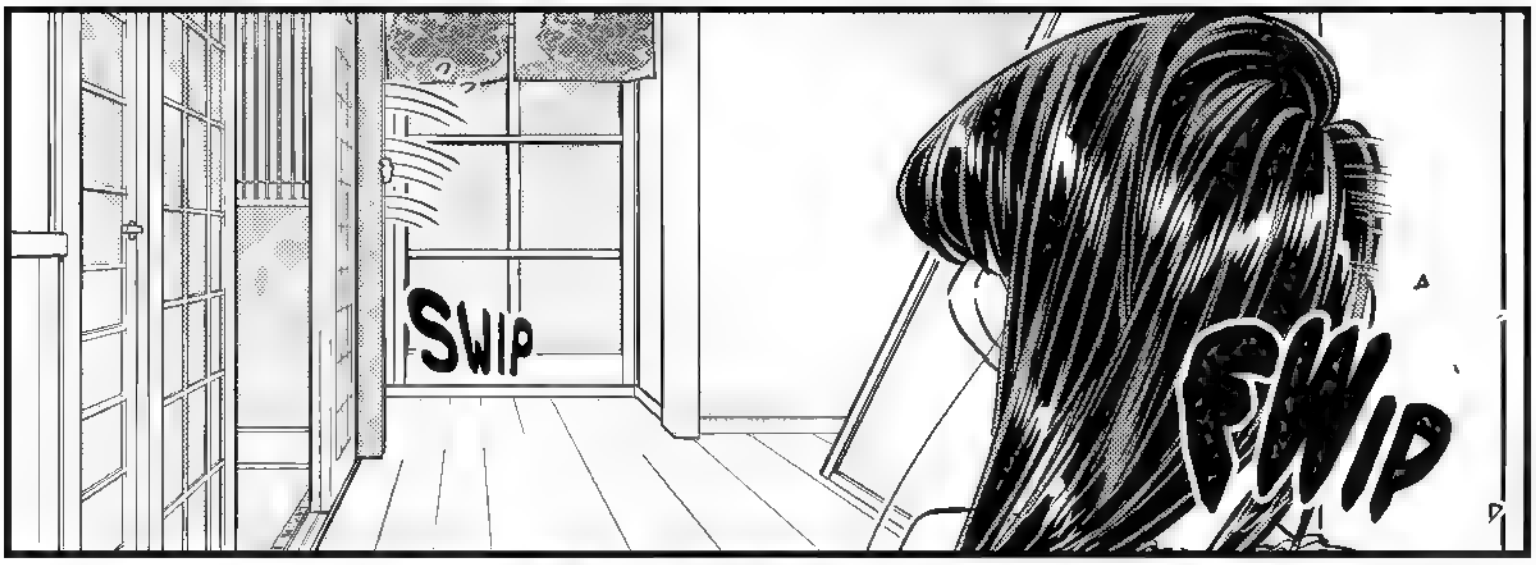
UMM

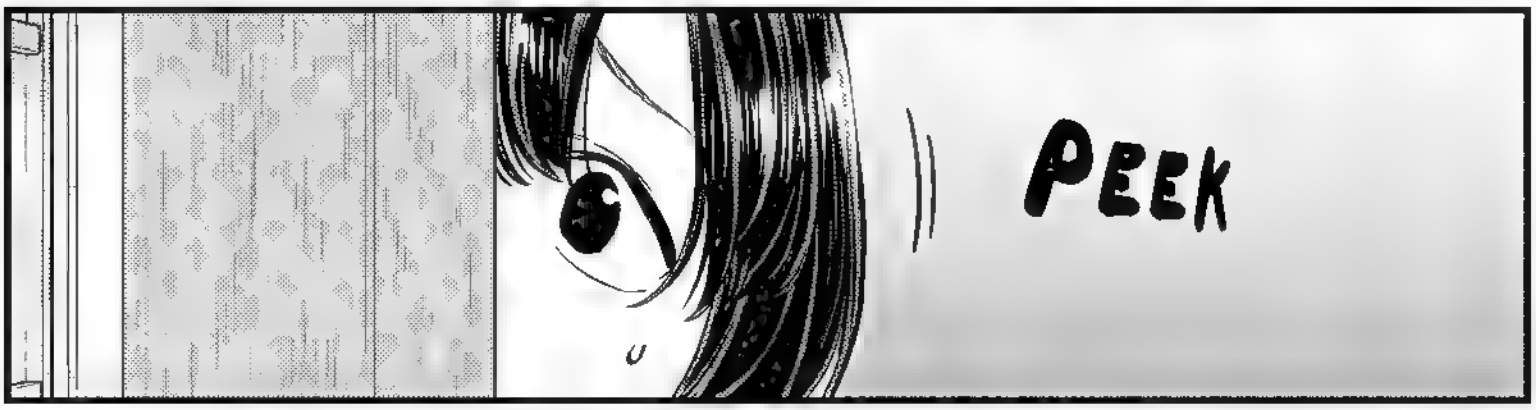
MMMPH

You're so cool now, Shosuke!

!
SLIP
SWISH
AKIRA'S OVER THERE! SO RUN ALONG AND PLAY!
Cousin: Akira (junior high, year 1)


...?
SHE HASN'T SEEN SHOKO FOR A WHILE, SO SHE'S SHY.
Cousin: Akira (junior high, year 1)


SWIP
FWIP


PEEK

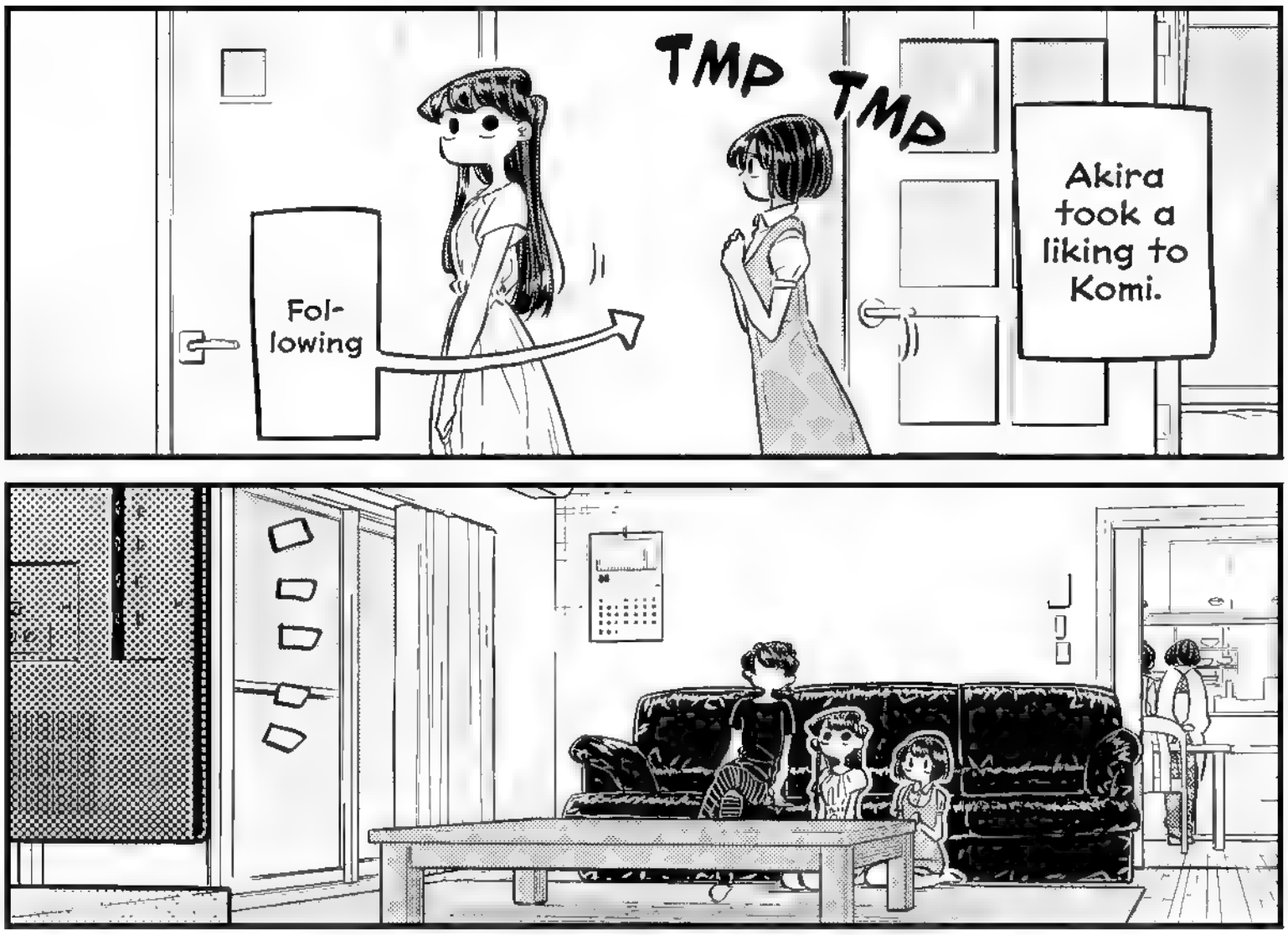
SUDDENLY
Komi was here.
GONE

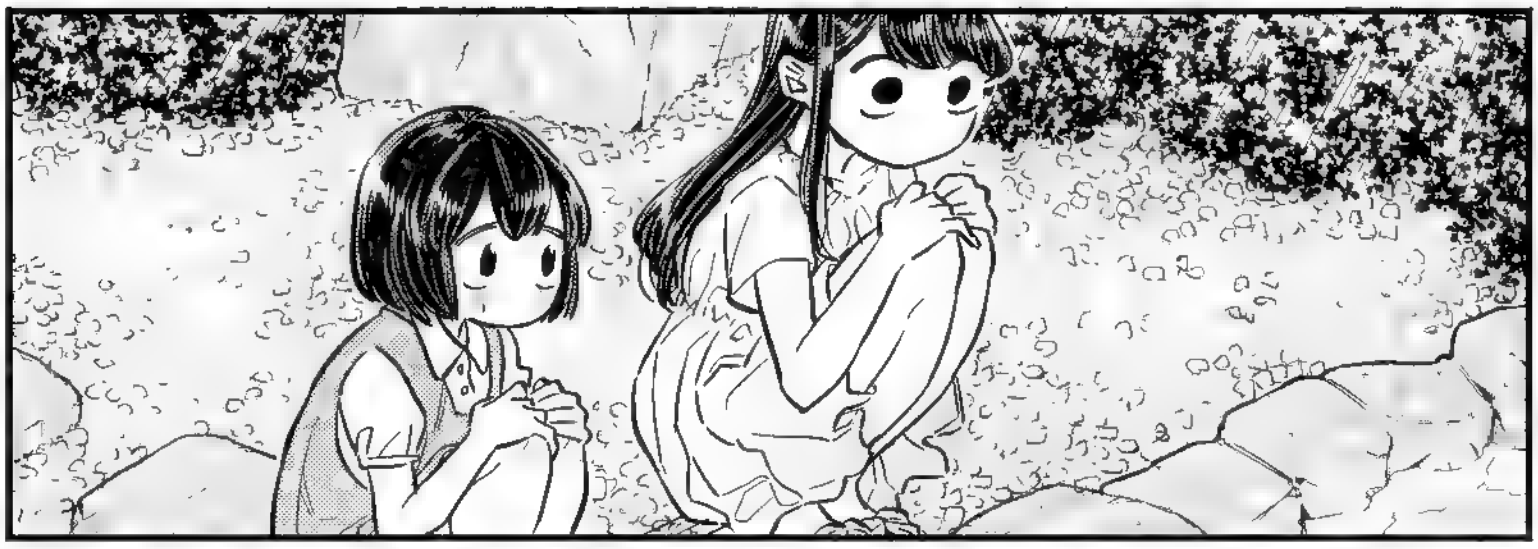
?!
RRMMM
?!
?!

Even more surprised than Akira because she didn't mean to surprise her
Noticed
YIKES
KYAAAAH!
Scared
TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL
ULP ...
EEP ...

Doesn't want to scare her
IDEA!
CRINGE

KYAAAH!
GW
UP
TICKLE TICKLE TICKLE TICKLE TICKLE
STOP THAT ...
AH HA HA!
SH-SHOKO ?
HA HA...
HUH?
HEY ...
AH HA HA HA! HUH ?!
Shoko ?!
SHO-KO?!
HA HA!
HEY ...
TICKLE TICKLE TICKLE TICKLE
They're a little closer now.
ROLL
ROLL


TMP TMP
Fol-
lowing
Akira took a liking to Komi.



?!
SHOKO!!
Bath-
room

NOD

UM ...

UH ...

WANNA PLAY A BOARD GAME?

SH-SHOKO ...

LIFE

SUDDEN

?!

SOB!

...

...!

WEEPING

I'M JUST SO GLAD YOU'LL PLAY WITH ME.

SNIFF

UH... I...

I'M JUST ...

?!

?!

...

STARE

YOU USUALLY JUST STARE AT ME IN SILENCE.

SHOKO, SAY HELLO TO YOUR GRAND-MOTHER BEFORE WE EAT.

I'm the mistress of a young CEO, so I get $20,000!

The Komi family reports to Grandma Komi and receives advice about recent household events and problems.

Play with your aunt!

GLOOM

Grandma was hard on him

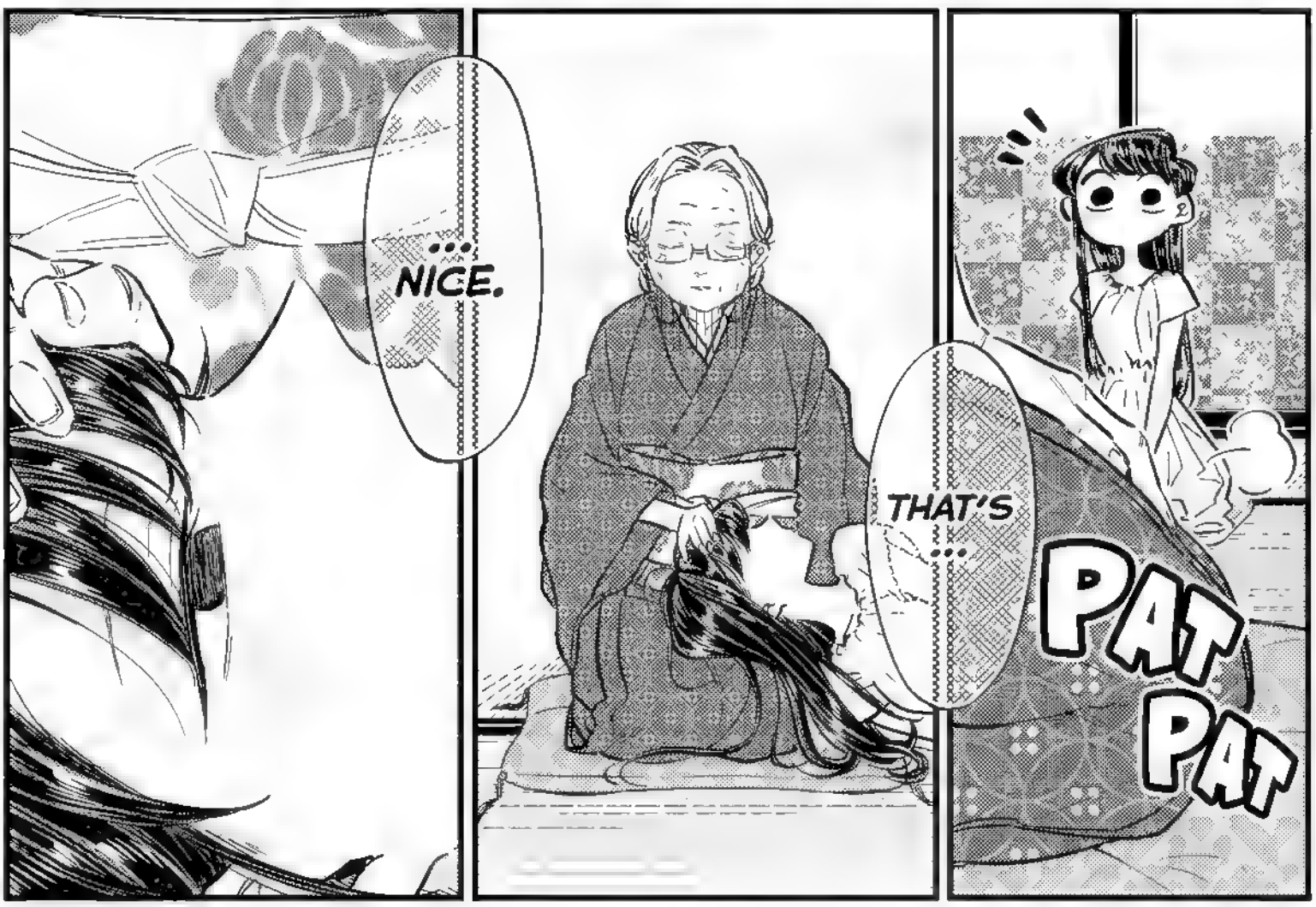
SWOOO

!

COME IN.

NOD
ARE YOU ENJOYING SCHOOL?
5
1
OH, THAT'S NICE.
6
HAVE A SEAT.
2
SHAKE SHAKE
ARE YOU HAVING ANY DIFFI-CULTIES?
7
...
3
...MADE ANY FRIENDS?
HAVE YOU ...
8
NOD
YOU'RE IN HIGH SCHOOL NOW.
4

OH.


...NICE.
THAT'S...
PAT PAT

?!

IS THERE A BOY YOU LIKE?

!! !! ?!

HITO-HITO TADANO ?!

WHAT KIND OF NAME IS THIS ?!

I DISAP-PROVE !!

DINNER'S READY, EVERYONE!

...

WHY DID YOU REACT LIKE THAT?

WHAT A WEIRD NAME!

CLATTER

BIP BIP BIP

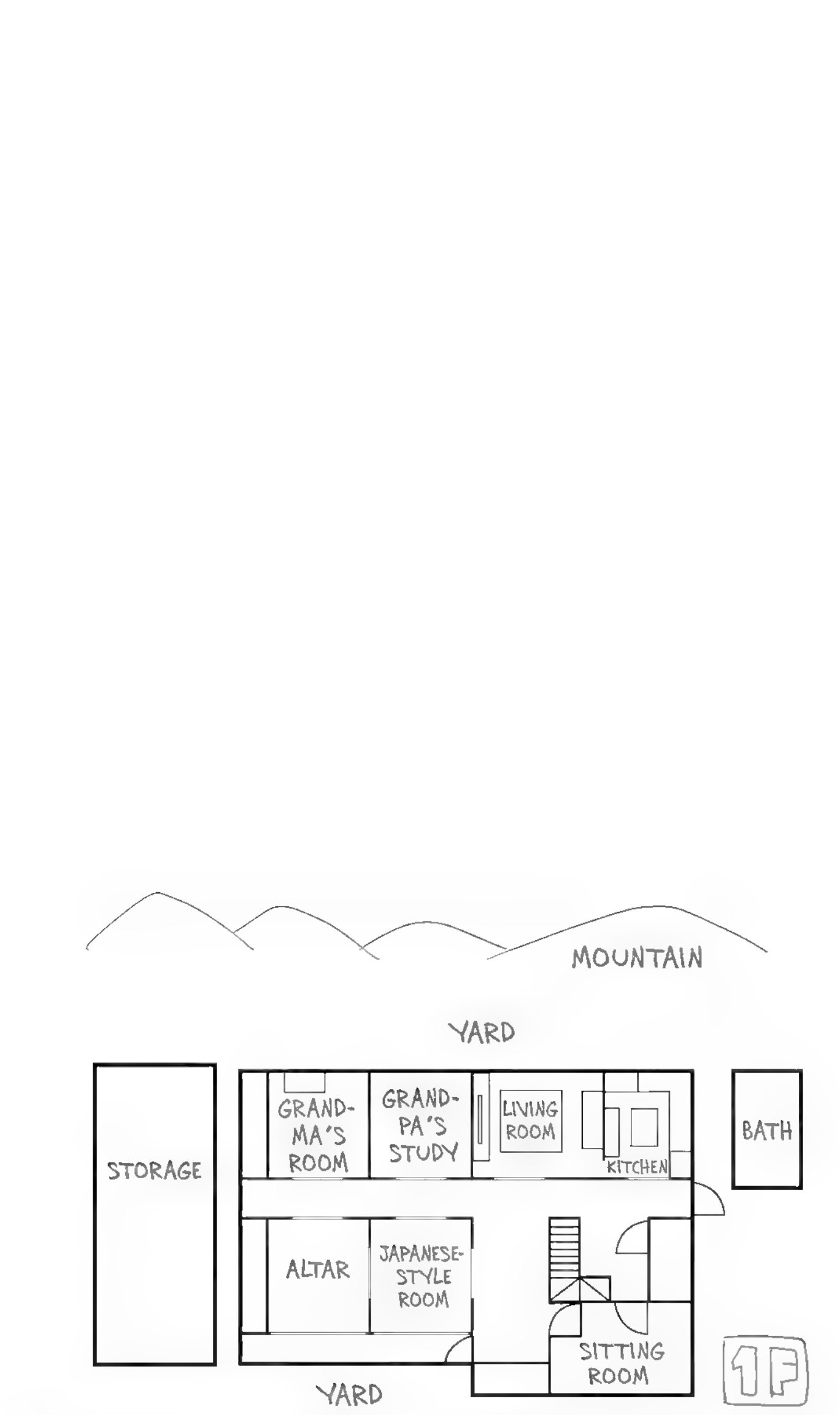
LET ME SEE YOUR PHONE.

?!

HAVE YOU CAUGHT A SUMMER COLD?

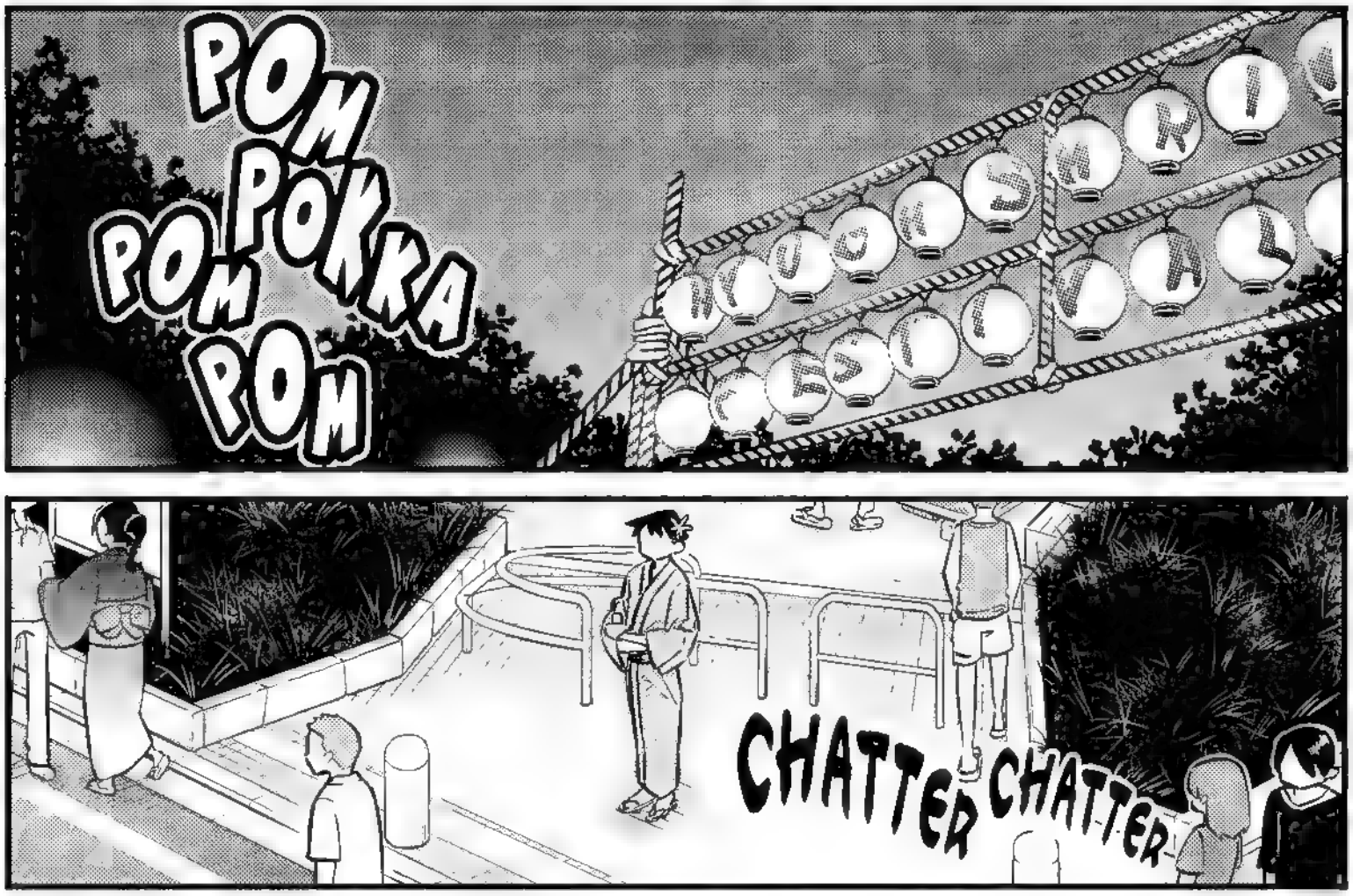
AH CHOO

Communication 45 — The End

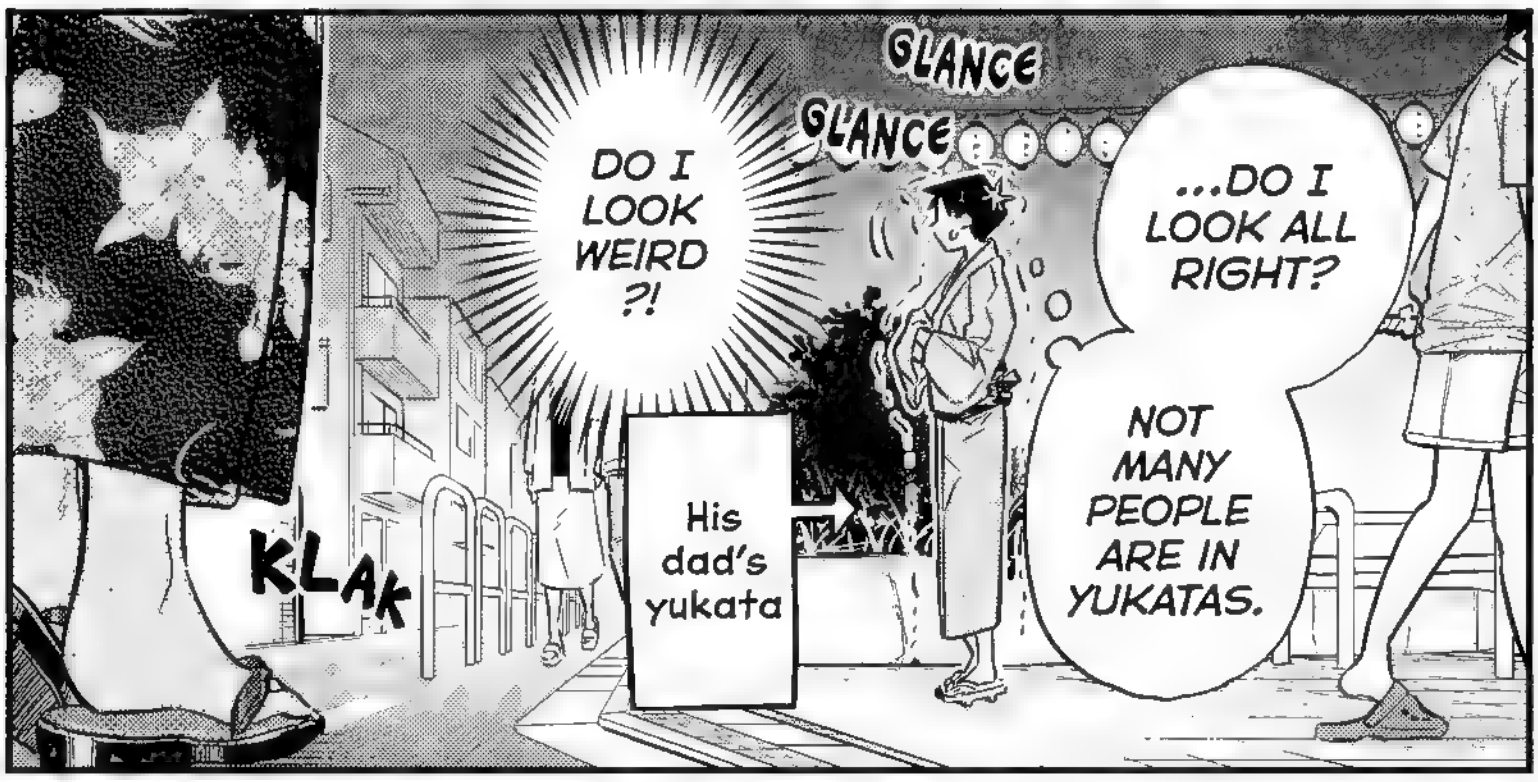


KOMI'S GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE

Komi Can't Communicate


POM POM POM POM
CHATTER CHATTER

I WORE ONE, BUT...
CLICK
AND WEAR A YUKATA!
TADANO! THERE'S A FESTIVAL TODAY!! MEET AT THE SHRINE AT SIX!
NAJIMI


GLANCE
GLANCE
DO I LOOK WEIRD ?!
...DO I LOOK ALL RIGHT?
NOT MANY PEOPLE ARE IN YUKATAS.
His dad's yukata
KLAK

KLAK

KLAK

?!

So stunned he can only make weird sounds

MM ...

... FRRBL.

Communication 46: Festival

Y-YOU LOOK FINE!
NO, UM... YOU LOOK GREAT! I JUST STUMBLED OVER MY WORDS!
Worried that she looks stupid
TRMBL TRMBL TRMBL
...
NAJIMI NEVER SAID KOMI WAS COMING!
...
Looking for her notepad
SHF SHF
...
HM? DID YOU FORGET SOMETHING TO WRITE ON?
Forgot her notepad
?!
?!

THRONG
It's summer! Sum-mer!
!
Hi there! Thanks for waitin', guys!
THRONG
THRONG

HM?
THRO
WHO'RE ALL THESE PEOPLE WITH YOU?
NNNG
160 feet of people

OVER-BOOKED ?!
Silly me!
OH, THEM? I OVER-BOOKED MYSELF FOR THE FESTIVAL!

NAJIMI'S A COMMU-NICATION BOMB!!
THRONG
SO LET'S GO!
ANYWAY, FRIENDS OF FRIENDS ARE FRIENDS!
THRONG

THRONG

I GUESS WE SHOULD GO TOO, HUH?

THRONG

THRONG

...

...

THRONG

THRONG

...

HM? WHAT'S WRONG?

THRONG

GACK

SHE HASN'T BEEN LIKE THIS IN A WHILE!

GACK

T-T-T-
T-T-T-
T-T-T-
T-T-T-
T-T-...

BLUSHHH

BUT NOT, LIKE... IN A *SIGNIF-ICANT* WAY!

ARE YOU WORRIED BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR NOTE-BOOK?

IT'S ALL RIGHT. I'LL STAY WITH YOU.

...?

HMPH

??

Decided to come along

I'M ALONE WITH KOMI AT A SUMMER FESTI-VAL!

BOOM CLANG

YAKITORI

BOOM CLANG

HM? WAIT A MINUTE ...

GASP

?! JOLT

Trying not to think about it because if he does, he'll get nervous and freeze up

SWIP SWUP

SWIP SWUP SWIP

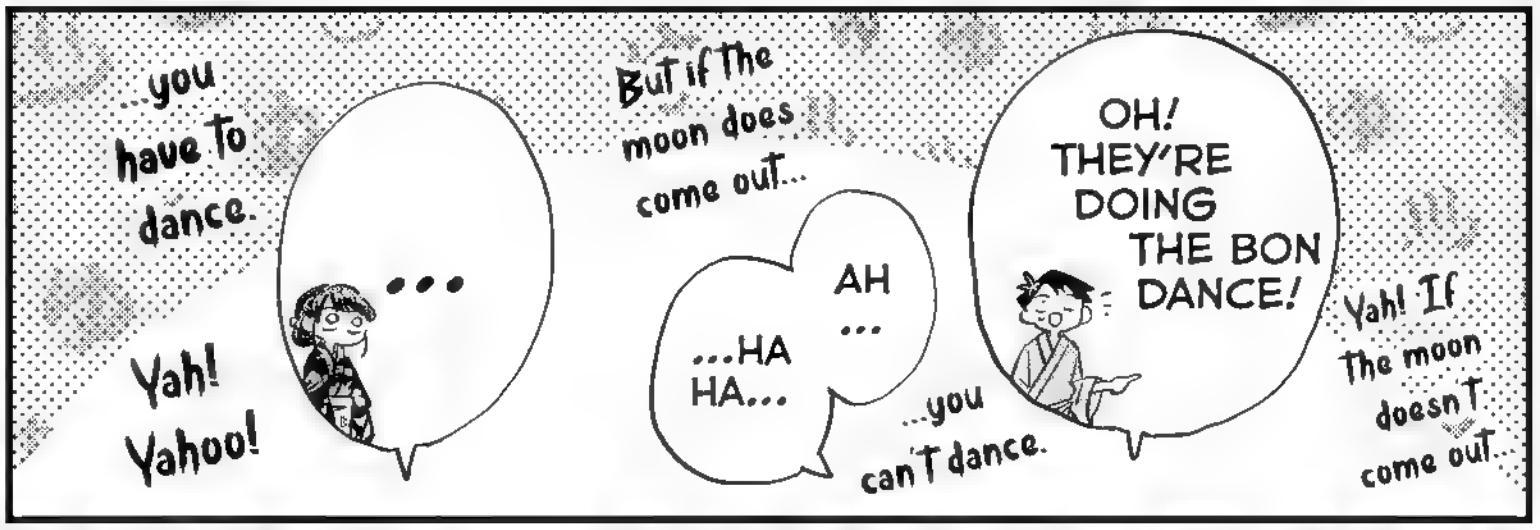
NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO! OTHER PEOPLE ARE HERE! LIKE NAJIMI!

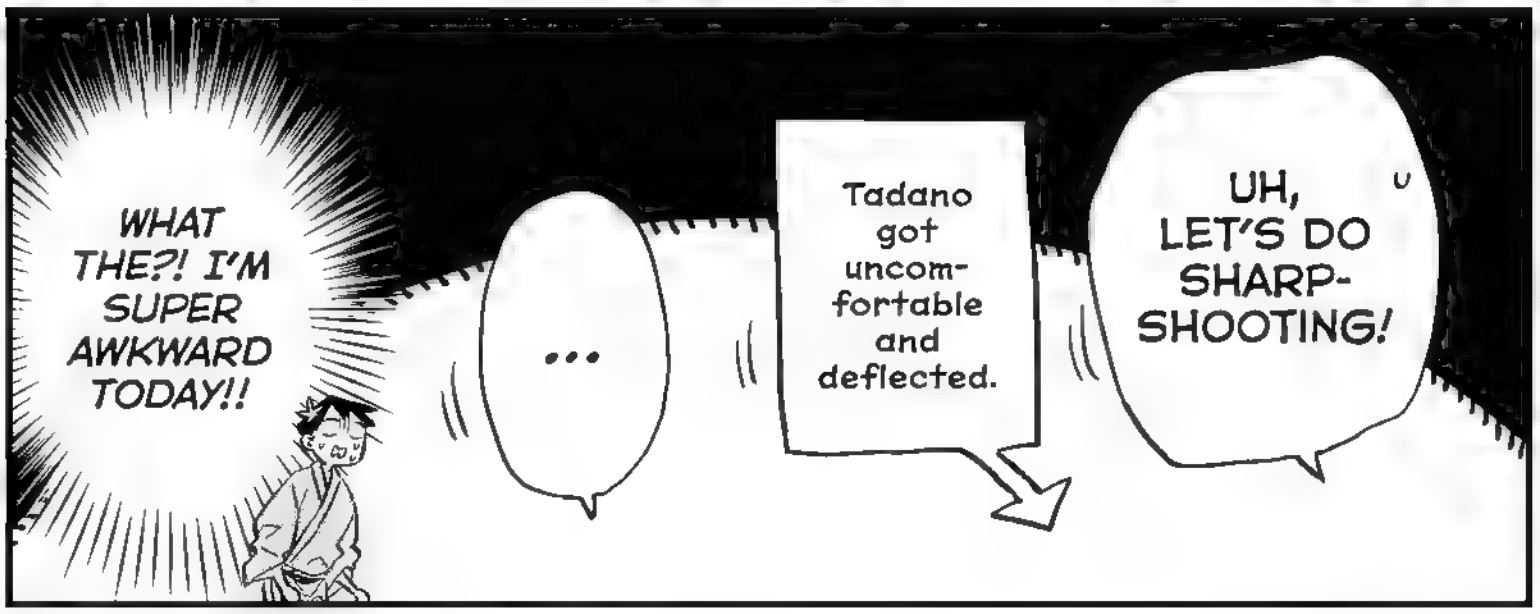
ICE
CANDIED AP
GREAT TASTE
WELL, LET'S HAVE A LOOK AROUND!
TONK
TONK
OBAN
At the festival grounds
CLANG
TAKOYAKI
ICE
ICE
ICE
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

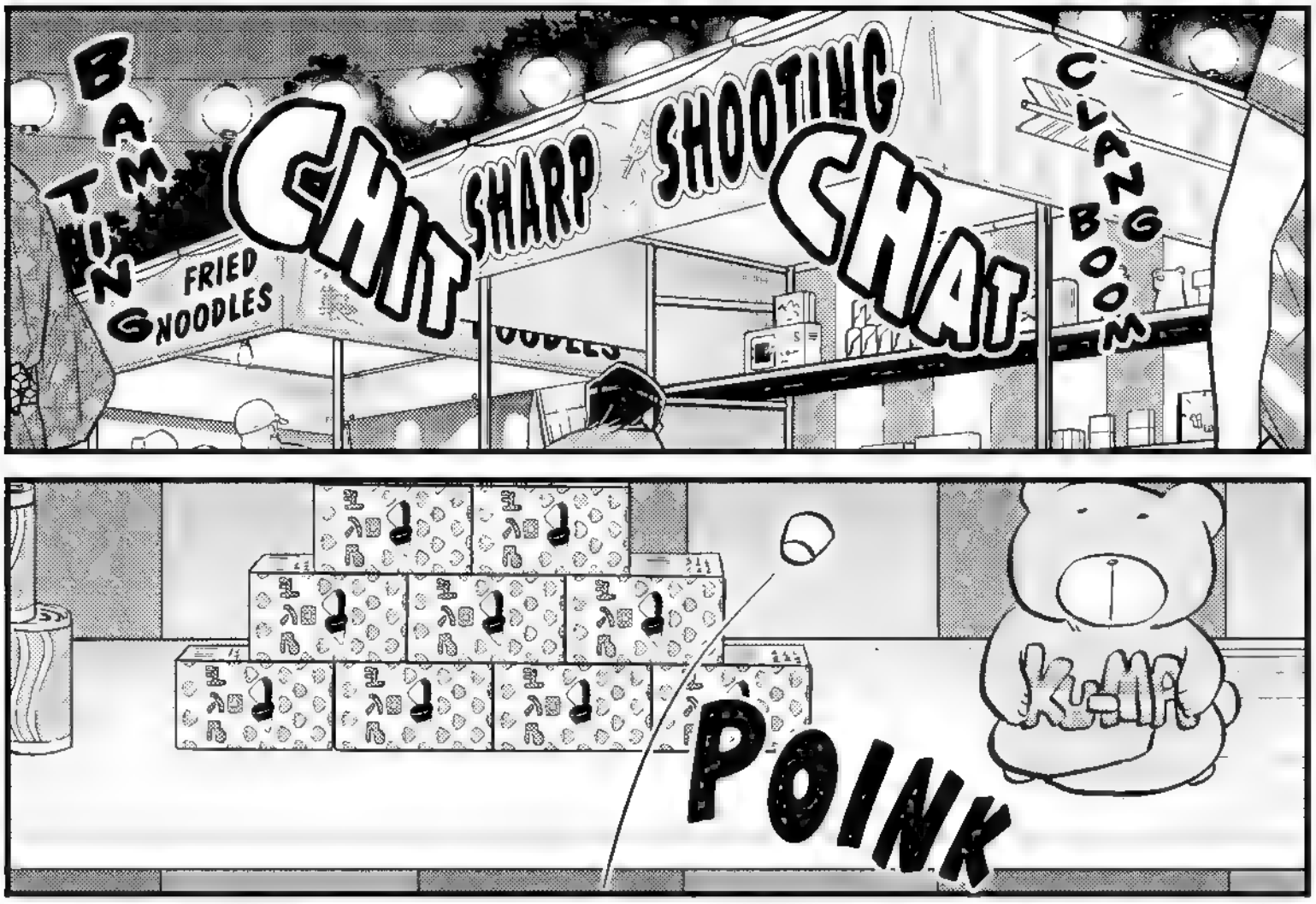
CANDY
SWEET
CORN DOGS
SWEET
ICE
CANDIED AP
GREAT TASTE
Communication disorders make it difficult to deal with vendors.
BOOM
SOBA OMELET
BOOM
BOOM
BAD
OBAN
UM, WE'RE BACK WHERE WE STARTED.

YAKI
FRANKFURT
STARE
CHIT
I...I CAN FEEL HER EYES ON ME...
CHAT

...!
NOD
WAIT, IS THIS YOUR FIRST FESTI-VAL?


...you have to dance.
Yah! Yahoo!
...
But if the moon does come out...
AH ...
...HA HA...
...you can't dance.
OH! THEY'RE DOING THE BON DANCE!
Yah! If the moon doesn't come out...


WHAT THE?! I'M SUPER AWKWARD TODAY!!
...
Tadano got uncom-fortable and deflected.
UH, LET'S DO SHARP-SHOOTING!


BAM
TING
FRIED NOODLES
CHIT
SHARP
SHOOTING
CHAT
CLANG
BOOM
POINK
POINK
OMG
STAARE
Why is she doing that?!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
SH-SHE'S STARING AT ME! I CAN'T CONCEN-TRATE!

!
UM, WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY?
With my remaining shots?

UM, YOU WERE HOLDING IT RIGHT BEFORE.
?
?

I'M GOING TO COMPETE WITH KOMI IN TARGET PRACTICE!

Hm? Yada-no?

HEY! LONG TIME, NO SEE! THIS IS MAKERU YADANO!

*Makeru hates to lose.

Ko-mi

PTONK

POINK

Ma-keru

FIGHT'S ON, KOMI!! WHO CAN KNOCK OVER THE MOST PRIZES?!

...

Ko-mi

PTONK

POINK

Ma-keru

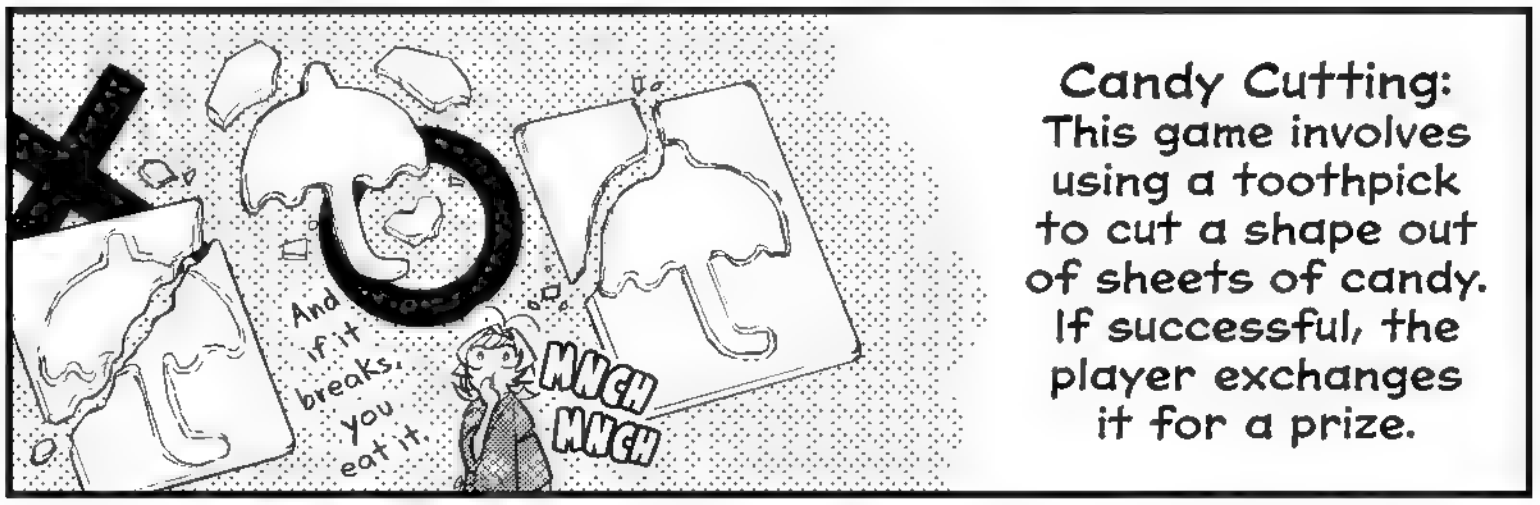
?!

PTONK

LEEËAN

GREE-AAA-RRRGH!!

...
Miss! Return the gun!
CHOCOLATE BANANA
WE'LL CALL IT A TIE.
!
Hey, Komi! Tadano! Let's do candy cutting!


And if it breaks, you eat it.
MNCH MNCH
Candy Cutting: This game involves using a toothpick to cut a shape out of sheets of candy. If successful, the player exchanges it for a prize.

YOU REALLY LIKE TRYING YOUR LUCK!
Breaks every time
OOPS ...
CRUNK
HEH HEH... I'M OB-SESSED... THIS IS MY 15TH TRY.

Busy cutting
GLANCE

?
ARRGH!
CRUNK
STAARE
?!
HEY, YOU'RE GOOD AT THIS, KOMI!
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP
T-T-T-
T-T-T-T-
T-T-T...
ㄴ-ㄴ-
ㄴ-ㄴ-ㄴ-
ㄴ-ㄴ-ㄴ-
ㄴ-ㄴ-

TADANO, I LIKE THE WAY YOU DON'T HOLD BACK AROUND ME.

OKAY, I'LL HAVE YAKI-SOBA.

SORRY FOR OVERBOOKING TODAY! I'LL BUY YOU SOMETHING TO MAKE UP FOR IT! WHADDAYA WANT TO EAT?

N

...

HOW ABOUT YOU, KOMI? AND DON'T SAY YOU DON'T WANT ANYTHING!

...

Me... shave ...

OKAY! A SHAVE!

A SHAVE ?!

X Me shave

✓Melon-flavored *shaved* ice

THANKS.
ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO WAIT HERE!
PUMP
SWIP
...
SWIK
SCRIK SCRIK
SWIP
...
SWIK
IS THERE SOMETHING ON MY FACE?
PAT PAT
KOMI IS ACTING STRANGELY TODAY.
MAYBE I SHOULD ASK.
BABE?
BABMP
M...
IS SHE NOT HAVING FUN?
K...
T...

SWEAT
SWEAT
...
...Y-
YOU
GO
FIRST.
OH...
...UM
...
...Y
...
...YOU
LOOK
GOOD
TOO.
...
T...
TADA-
NO...

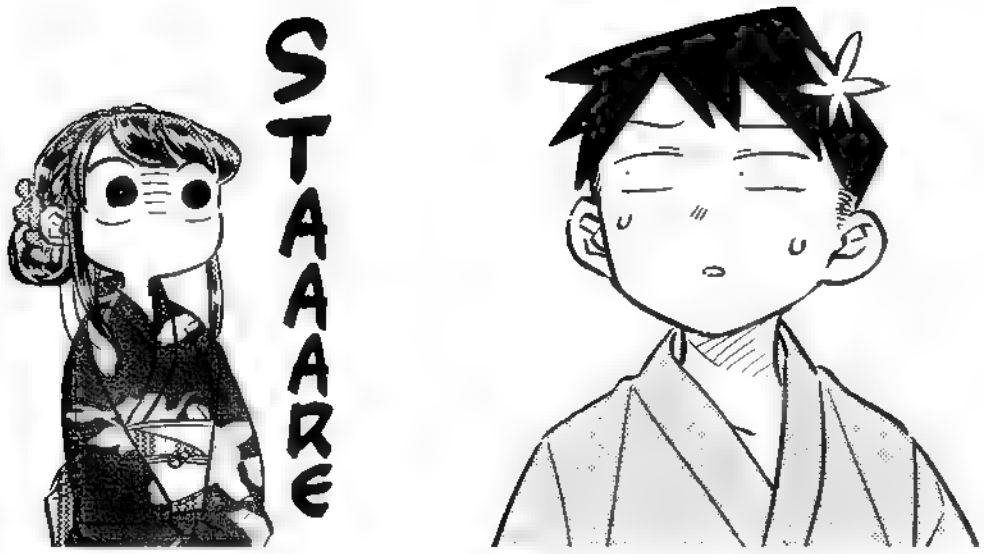
NO, UM...
YOU LOOK
GREAT!
I JUST
STUMBLED
OVER MY
WORDS!
Worried
that
she
looks
stupid
TRRR!
OH...
...
I
LOOK
GOOD
?
IS THAT
WHAT YOU'VE
BEEN TRYING
TO SAY THIS
WHOLE
TIME?
IS...

He cut out the shape perfectly. (Continued next chapter.)
MOOOPA
TAP TAP TAP TAP
TA TAP TAP
GAA AAA AAA AAA AHH HHH HHH HHH HHH!
UM...

Communication 46 – The End

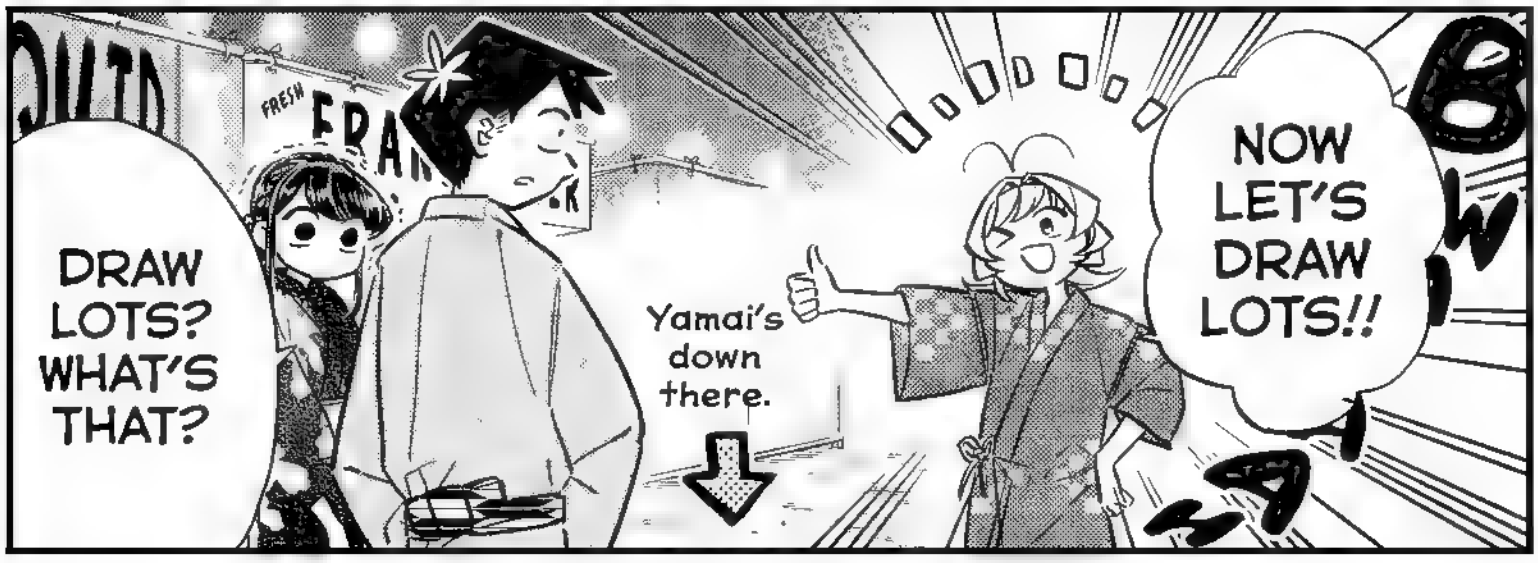
CLANG
BOOM
CLANG
BOOM
ICE
BLEAH
...
UH-HUH...
Lookee-look! My tongue's blue!
HER AGAIN?!
Wasn't waiting. At all.
KOMIII! THANKS FOR WAITING.
WHAT'S HER PROBLEM?!
Passed out at the sight of Komi in a yukata
AGH!
YUKA-TA...
KOMI...
SKIDDD

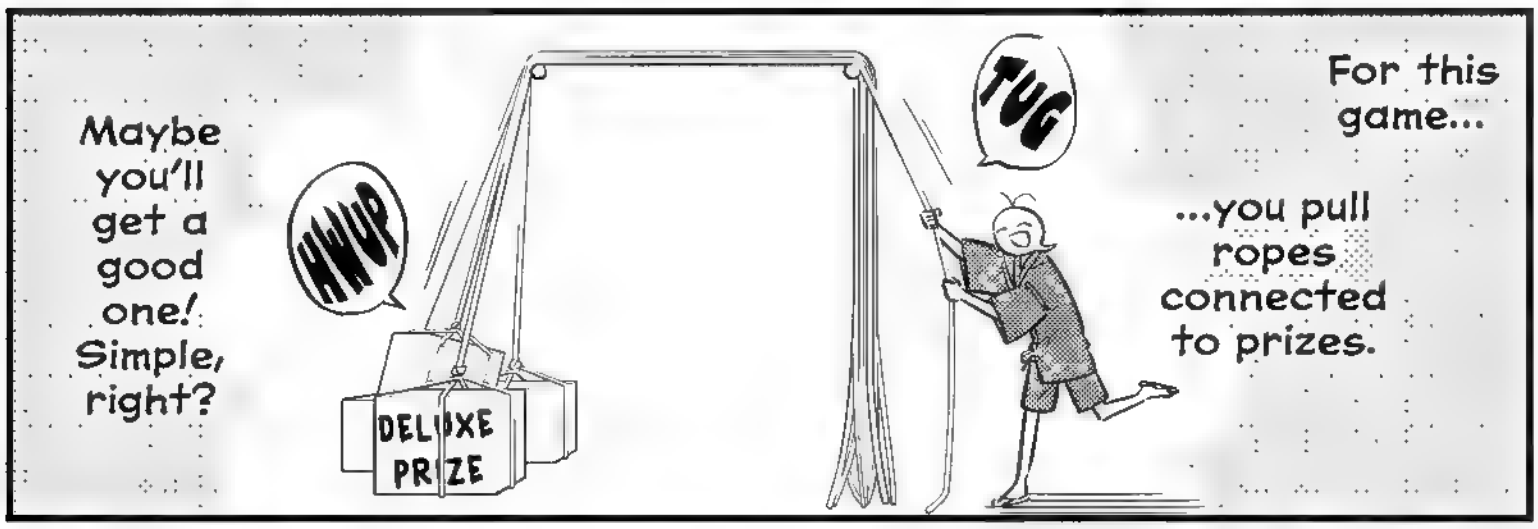
CANDIED APPLES
Komi Can't Communicate
Communication 47: Festival, Part 2



Komi Can't Communicate

Komi Can't Communicate





THE LATEST SLIM MODEL OF THE PLAY-STORE 4!!
I WANT THE BEST PRIZE!
IT'S FRAYING WITH AGE!!
FRAYED
WAIT! THAT ROPE!
BUT THERE ARE 50 ROPES! HOW DO I KNOW WHICH ONE–
THAT'S IT! I'LL PULL THE MOST BEAT-UP ROPE!
GRAB
ARRR RRRR RRR RGH!
FWIP
Tis-sues
THIS IS THE ONE!!
YANK

WELL, IF I *HAVE* TO...

I'll pay...

TADANO! GET IT FOR ME!

GASP

SWIPE

SWIPE

...shall I choose?

Which one...

ARRR RRRR RRR RGH!

Tis-sues

FWIP

PS IV

HM? IT MUST BE THIS ONE ... (T)

TUG

THAT'S NOT TRUE.

NOODLES $3

I BET THERE *ISN'T* A WINNING ROPE!

HMPH

Thrilled to be relied on

YOU'RE MY ONLY HOPE, KOMI! I'M COUNTING ON YOU!!

I'M RUNNIN' A BUSINESS HERE! SO I GOTTA MAKE AN IMPACT!

OF COURSE ONE OF 'EM IS THE BIG PRIZE!

DID HER DEMEANOR SUDDENLY CHANGE ?!

VEEN

I USE STRATEGY, YOUNG MAN!!

FRAYED

GLEAM

IT SWITCHES TO A NEW ROPE HALFWAY THERE!!

...BUT THAT'S A FAKE-OUT!!

IT LOOKS LIKE THE FRAYED ROPE LEADS TO THE PLAYSTORE 4...

IT TAKES GUTS TO PULL WHEN SHE LOOKS EXPRES-SIONLESS!

BUT THAT'S A FAKE-OUT TOO!!

WHEN SHE LOOKS FEARFUL, IT'S A FAKE-OUT!!

AND THE OLD WOMAN'S FACIAL EXPRES-SIONS!

AND THAT'S THE WHOLE POINT!!

TRYING TO WORK IT OUT JUST MAKES YOU MORE CONFUSED !!

SHE HAS IT ALL WORKED OUT BY COLOR, THICKNESS, SMELL AND MORE!!

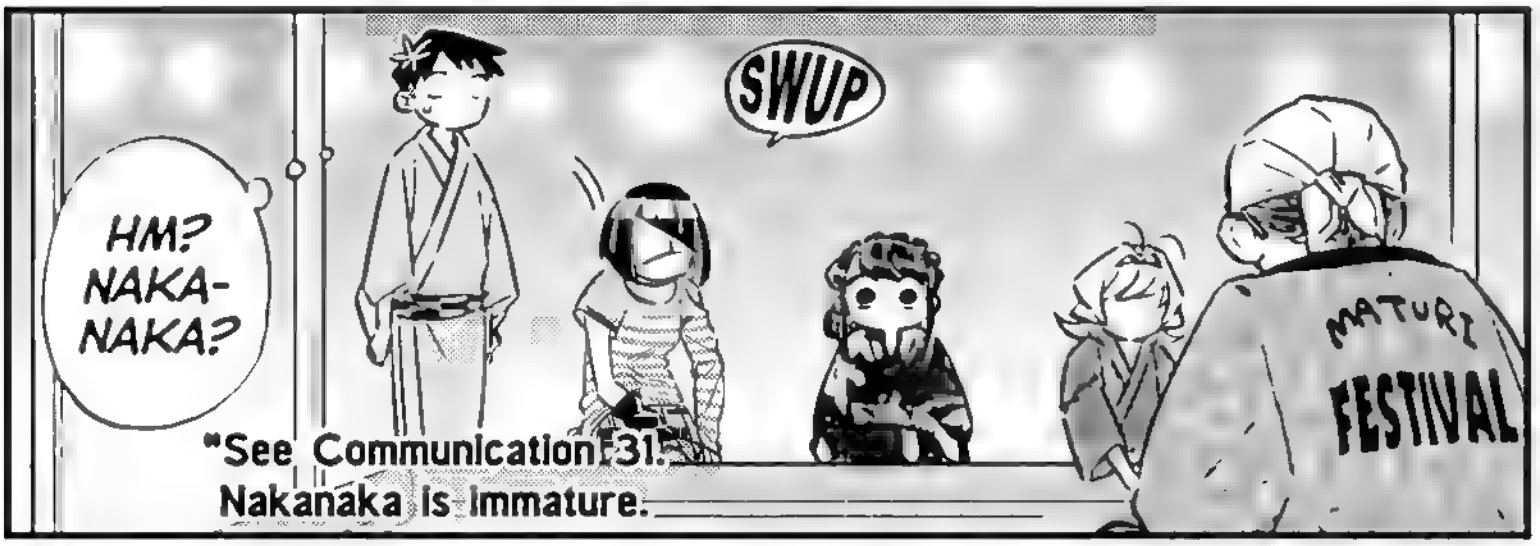
ARRR RRRR RRR RGH!

Old woman

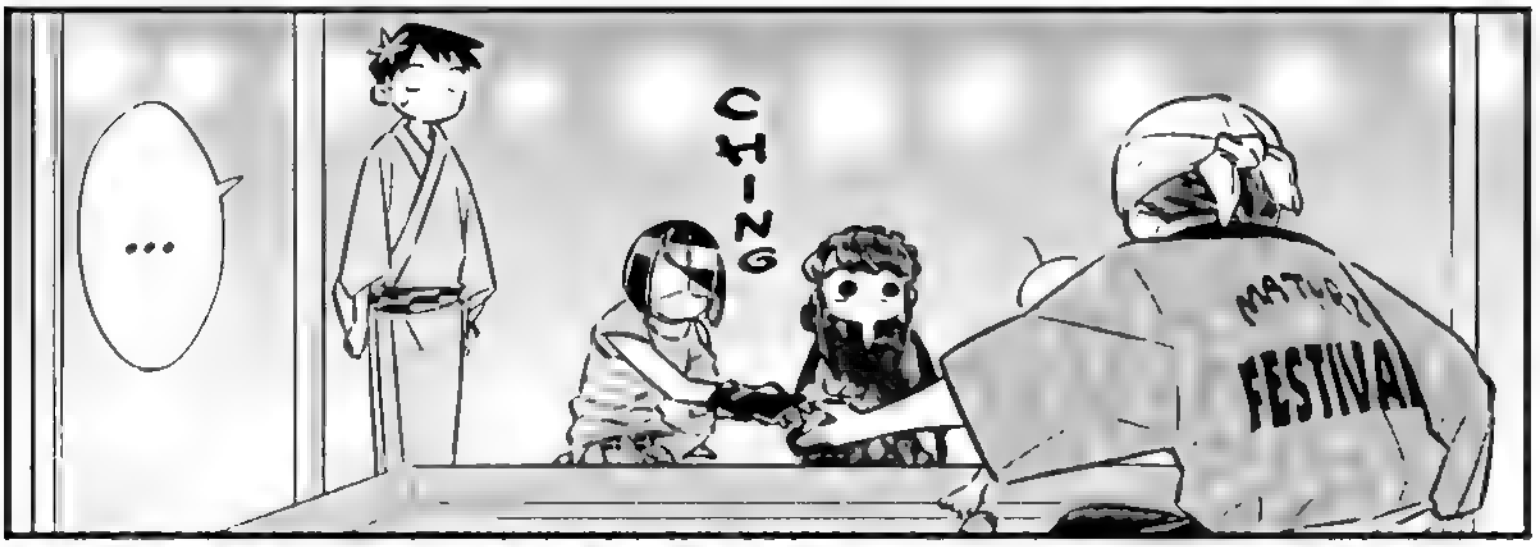
Not thinking anything

TUG

ROPE
SIGH
LOTTE
YAHOO
FRIED NOODLES $3
FRIED NOODLES $3
LA CAS
GOLDFISH
NOW LET'S SCOOP GOLD-FISH!!



"See Communication 31.
Nakanaka is immature.



SWOOSH
Hm? They all came over here!
...
...
Hm? Now they're over there.
...
SWOOSH
SWOOSH
Oh, they're back over here.
...

Hadn't even noticed her
...
Didn't catch a single one (but got a freebie)
OUR PATHS WILL CROSS AGAIN!
YOU TOO, HUH? TOO BAD.
...
UGH. MY SCOOP BROKE.
OH! THANKS, MISTER!
HERE YOU GO, LITTLE MISS. FOR FREE!
Komi declined it.
?!
BULGE
HERE YOU GO, PRETTY MISS. FOR FREE!

HEY
Regained consciousness
KOMI! I FINALLY FOUND YOU!

?
BOOM CLANG
BOOM CLANG
KOMI, WILL YOU CROUCH DOWN?

?
YES... RIGHT THERE.

WHAT IS SHE TRYING TO MAKE KOMI DO?!
I BROUGHT YOU A FRANK-FURTER!
EAT IT! EAT MY FRANK-FURTER!

?

?

GYAH!

CHOMP

NO! I'LL EAT IT!!

ICE ICE ICE ICE

FRESH YAKITORI

TROMP TROMP TROMP

EVERY-ONE'S HERE. LET'S GO OVER THERE NEXT.

FRESH OKONOMIYAKI YUM

GLASSWORK

GLA

FRESH FRIED NOODLES

TROMP

FRESH OKONOMIYAKI YUM

GLASSWORK

GLA

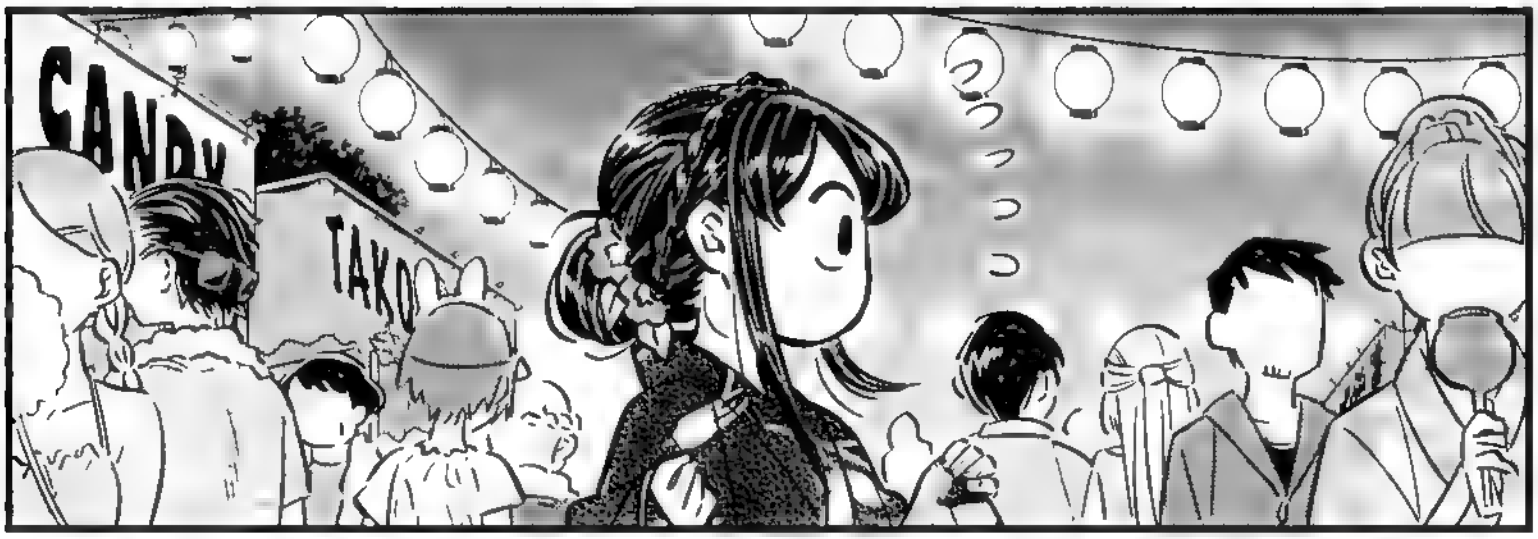
GASP

!!

FRESH FRIED NOODLES

...

TAKO YAKI
TAKO YAKI


CANDY
TAKO

...
Noticed Komi was missing and came back
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
DEATH!

FRESH OKONOMIYAKI
GLASS
FRESH FRIED NOODLES
!
KOMI ?

Almost in tears

GASP
Hadn't thought of that
...S-SO DON'T WORRY.
IF YOU GET LOST, YOU CAN CALL ME ON YOUR PHONE...

NOD

CHI EN

ORN

IT'LL BE HARD TO FIND NAJIMI IN THIS CROWD ...

...SO LET'S WAIT SOMEWHERE.

I'll send a text, though.

CLANG

BAM

LOTS OF PEOPLE, HUH?

...

BOOM BOOM

TONK

...?

PONK

CLANG BAM

!

...

CHIT CHAT

CHATTER

!

WAHOO WAHOO

SKRK SKRK SKRK

YES

FWEEET

CHIT CHAT

WASN'T IT FUN HANGING IN A BIG GROUP?

I HAD FUN WITH JUST YOU TOO.
SKRIK SKRIK

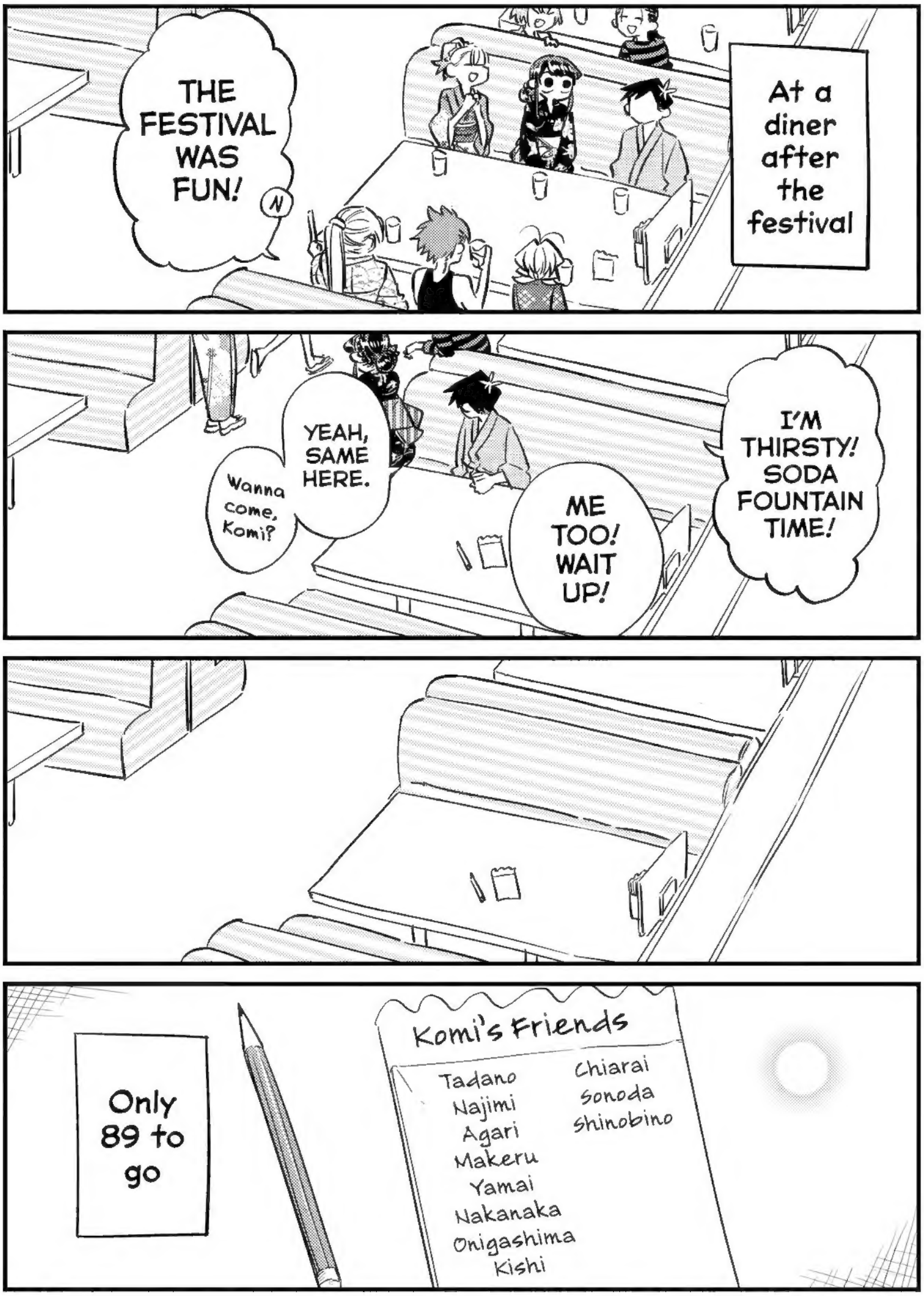
Komi Can't Communicate

Communication 47 – The End

Komi Can't Communicate

Looking at Butts Underwater

Can Komi Make 100 Friends? Enjoying Summer Vacation



Komi Can't Communicate

VOL. 3
Shonen Sunday Edition

Story and Art by Tomohito Oda

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
KOMI CAN'T COMMUNICATE is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up.

Tomohito Oda won the grand prize for *World Worst One* in the 70th Shogakukan New Comic Artist Awards in 2012. Oda's series *Digicon*, about a tough high school girl who finds herself in control of an alien with plans for world domination, ran from 2014 to 2015. In 2015, *Komi Can't Communicate* debuted as a one-shot in *Weekly Shonen Sunday* and was picked up as a full series by the same magazine in 2016.